

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH  
PHASE I Program Solicitation  
RFP# PR-NC-05-10246**

*Mid-Atlantic Environmental Problems  
(EPA Region 3)*

*Pacific Northwest Environmental Problems  
(EPA Region 10)*

*Hazardous Waste Topics (EPA OSWER)*

*Critical EPA Research Topics*

**ISSUE DATE: March 24, 2005**

**CLOSING DATE: May 25, 2005 \***

\* **CAUTION** - See Section V., Paragraph J.9(c), Instructions to Offerors, Concerning Late Proposals and Modifications.

Your proposal with an **original and nine (9) copies** (including all appendices) shall be received at one of the following addresses by **12:00 p.m. (Noon) local time on May 25, 2005.**

**U.S. MAIL:**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Solicitation No. PR-NC-05-10246 - SBIR Phase I  
Closing Date: May 25, 2005 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)  
Attention: Marsha Johnson, SBIR Phase I  
RTP Procurement Operations Division (D143-01)  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

**HAND-CARRIED/COURIER ADDRESS:**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Solicitation No. PR-NC-05-10246 - SBIR Phase I  
Closing Date: May 25, 2005 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)  
Attention: Marsha Johnson, SBIR Phase I  
RTP Procurement Operations Division (D143-01)  
4930 Page Road  
Durham, NC 27703

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## **SBIR PHASE I SOLICITATION**

### **I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

A. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites small business firms to submit research proposals under this Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Solicitation. The SBIR program is a phased process uniform throughout the Federal Government of soliciting proposals and awarding funding agreements for research (R) or research and development (R&D) to meet stated agency needs or missions.

EPA is interested in advanced technologies that address Mid-Atlantic (EPA Region 3) Environmental Problems (Management of Poultry and Other Animal Feeding Operations, Drinking Water and Detection of Lead Service Lines, Pollution Indicators for Beaches and Recreational Waters and In-Situ Cleanup of Contaminated Sediments), Pacific Northwest (EPA Region 10) Environmental Problems (Management of Wastes from Hard-Rock and Coal Mining, Monitoring and Control of Air Pollution, Environmental Protection of Tribal Reservations and Alaska Native Villages, Reducing Low Level Area-Wide Soil Contamination and Alaska Oil and Gas Management Tools), EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) topics (Waste Minimization, Hazardous Waste Management, Contaminated Site Monitoring, Solid Waste Recycling and Waste Gasification), and Critical EPA Research Topics (Innovation in Manufacturing, Nanomaterials, Pollution Prevention, Water and Wastewater Management, Green Buildings, Safe Buildings, Drinking Water and Wastewater Security, Computational Toxicology and Lead Paint Detection and Removal). The proposed research must directly pertain to EPA's environmental mission and must be responsive to EPA program interests included in the topic descriptions in this solicitation. (See page 2 for a summary listing of all research topics included in this solicitation.)

## **SBIR PHASE I RESEARCH TOPICS**

- A. MID-ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (EPA REGION 3)
  - A1. Management of Poultry and Other Animal Feeding Operations
  - A2. Drinking Water and Detection of Lead Service Lines
  - A3. Pollution Indicators for Beaches and Recreational Waters
    - Pollutant Markers and Microbial Source Tracking
  - A4. In-situ Cleanup of Contaminated Sediments
- B. PACIFIC NORTHWEST ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (EPA REGION 10)
  - B1. Management of Wastes from Hard-Rock and Coal Mining
  - B2. Monitoring and Control of Air Pollution
    - PM from Agricultural Sources
    - Diesel Emissions and Biodiesel
    - Small Air Pollution Sources
    - Air Pollution Monitoring
  - B3. Environmental Protection of Tribal Reservations and Alaska Native Villages
  - B4. Reducing Low Level Area-Wide Soil Contamination
  - B5. Alaska Oil and Gas Management Tools
- C. MINIMIZATION, MONITORING AND REMEDIATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE FOR EPA OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (OSWER)
  - C1. Waste Minimization
  - C2. Hazardous Waste Management
  - C3. Contaminated Site Monitoring
  - C4. Solid Waste Recycling
  - C5. Waste Gasification
- D. CRITICAL EPA RESEARCH TOPICS
  - D1. Innovation in Manufacturing
  - D2. Nanomaterials
  - D3. Pollution Prevention
    - Automobile and Other Green Supplier Networks
    - Hospitals for a Healthy Environment
    - Fragrances
  - D4. Water and Wastewater Management
    - Water Conservation and Reuse
  - D5. Green Buildings
  - D6. Safe Buildings
  - D7. Drinking Water and Wastewater Security
  - D8. Computational Toxicology
  - D9. Lead Paint Detection and Removal

In order to facilitate proposal reviews by external peer reviewers with specialized expertise and by EPA technical personnel with focused program needs and priorities, offerors must designate a research topic for their proposal. The same proposal may not be submitted under more than one topic. An organization may, however, submit separate proposals on different topics, or different proposals on the same topic, as long as the proposals are not duplicates of the same research principle modified to fit the topic. If such duplicates are submitted, only one will be reviewed. Refer to Sections IV, V, and VI for additional requirements. Where similar research is discussed under more than one topic, the offeror shall choose the topic most relevant to the proposed research. It is the complete responsibility of offerors to select and identify the best topic for their proposals.

B. Offerors are responsible for submitting proposals, and any modifications or revisions, so as to reach the Government office designated in this solicitation by the time specified in this solicitation. See Section V, Paragraph J.9(c), Instructions to Offerors, concerning Late Proposals and Modifications.

### **THIS SOLICITATION IS FOR PHASE I PROPOSALS ONLY.**

To stimulate and foster technological innovation, including increasing private sector applications of Federal research or R&D, EPA's program follows the SBIR program's uniform process:

- (1) **PHASE I.** Phase I involves a solicitation of proposals to conduct feasibility related experimental research or R&D related to described agency requirements. The objective of this phase is to determine the technical feasibility and preliminary commercialization potential of the proposed effort and the quality of performance of the small concern with a relatively small agency investment before consideration of further Federal support in Phase II. The Government is not obligated to fund any specific Phase I proposal. The maximum dollar amount of awards under this Phase I solicitation is \$70,000 and the term of performance should not exceed six months.
- (2) **PHASE II.** Phase II proposals may only be submitted by Phase I awardees invited to submit proposals. Phase II is the principal research or R&D effort and Phase II projects should normally be completed in fifteen months. The objective is to continue the research or R&D initiated under Phase I and work toward commercialization of the technology. Phase II awards are expected to include full scale testing of the technology, but may not necessarily complete the total research and development that may be required to satisfy commercial or federal needs beyond the SBIR program. Completion of the research and development may be through Phase III. The Agency is under no obligation to fund any proposal or any specific number of proposals in a given topic. It also may elect to fund several or none of the proposed approaches to the same topic.

It is anticipated that approximately 10 Phase II awards will be made, each with a dollar amount of \$225,000 and 15- month term of performance. For Phase II, the Agency is planning

to offer two Phase II Options: (1) Phase II Commercialization Option under which Phase II offerors may submit a proposal for \$70,000 additional funding to expand R&D efforts to accelerate the project from full scale testing and demonstration to full commercialization; and (2) Phase II Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Option under which Phase II offerors may submit a proposal for up to \$50,000 additional funding to facilitate third party R/R&D verification testing that will improve the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) of the technology and accelerate the acceptance and use of improved and more cost-effective technologies. EPA federal funds must be designated strictly for advancing the research related elements of the project. No automatic preference shall be given to offers which address the options; however, in the case where an offeror addresses the option(s) in its proposal, the entire proposal including the option(s) shall be evaluated. The Agency would have a unilateral right to exercise the option after EPA's acceptance of the company's option documentation. Documentation for the Phase II Commercialization Option are receipts showing that at least \$100,000 was transferred to the contractor from one or more third party investors, such as a venture capital firm, an individual "angel" investor, state or local funding source, or another company under a partnership, licensing or joint venture arrangement, or any combination of third parties. Documentation for the ETV Option is the signed ETV Technology Verification Testing Commitment Letter. (For more information on ETV, visit <http://www.epa.gov/etv>.) The Government is not obligated to fund any specific Phase II proposal.

For technologies awarded Phase I contracts under this solicitation, the follow-on Phase II Solicitation will be issued on/about July 28, 2006, and proposals will be due on/about September 15, 2006. It is expected that each Phase II proposal will be evaluated on the results of Phase I, the Phase II program plan and the commercial potential of the Phase II proposal. The evaluation criteria will be as follows:

#### PHASE II CRITERIA

1. Results of Phase I and degree to which research objectives and identified customer needs were met. Demonstration of performance/cost effectiveness and environmental benefits associated with the proposed research, including risk reduction potential.
2. Quality and soundness of the Phase II research plan to establish the technical and commercial viability of the proposed concept as evidenced through technology prototypes or initial commercial demonstrations.
3. Qualifications of the principal investigator, supporting staff and consultants. Time commitment of principal investigator and project team, adequacy of equipment and facilities and proposed budget to accomplish the proposed research. Adequacy of Phase II Quality Assurance Summary.
4. Potential of the proposed concept for significant commercialization applications. The quality and adequacy of the commercialization plan to

produce an innovative product, process or device and getting technology prototypes or initial Phase II applications into commercial production and sales.

5. The offeror's SBIR or other research commercialization record. Existence of second phase funding commitments from private sector or non-SBIR funding sources. Existence of third phase follow-on commitments and presence of other indicators of commercial potential of the idea.

(3) **PHASE III.** Where appropriate and needed in order to complete the research and development, there may be a third phase which is funded by:

1. Non-federal sources of capital for commercial applications of SBIR funded research or research and development.
2. Federal government with non-SBIR federal funds for SBIR derived products and processes that will be used by the federal government.
3. Non-SBIR federal funds for the continuation of research or research and development that has been competitively selected using peer review or scientific review criteria.

C. Each offeror submitting a proposal must qualify as a small business for research or R&D purposes at the time of award of Phase I and Phase II funding agreements. In addition, the primary employment of the principal investigator must be with the small business firm at the time of contract award and during the conduct of the proposed research. Principal investigators who appear to be employed by a university must submit a letter from the university stating that the principal investigator, if awarded a SBIR contract, will become a less-than-half-time employee of the university. Also, a principal investigator who appears to be a staff member of both the applicant and another employer must submit a letter from the second employer stating that, if awarded a SBIR contract, he/she will become a less than half-time employee of such organization. Letters demonstrating that these requirements have been fulfilled shall be submitted prior to contract award to the addressee stated in Section VI of this solicitation. Failure to do so may jeopardize award. Also, for both Phase I and Phase II, the research or R&D work must be performed in the United States. (For definition of the United States, see Section II. J.)

**D. For Phase I the Government anticipates the award of approximately \$2.8M in firm fixed price contracts at approximately \$70,000 each including profit,** but reserves the right to change either the number of awards or the amount of the individual awards depending on the outcome of the selection process. The contractor's period of performance is expected to be 6 months. Award of any contract(s) resulting from this solicitation shall be to the responsible offeror(s) with the highest rankings after evaluation in accordance with Section IV. Source selection will not be based on a comparison of cost or price. However, cost or price will be

evaluated to determine whether the price, including any proposed profit, is fair and reasonable and whether the offeror understands the work and is capable of performing the contract.

E. All inquiries concerning this solicitation shall be submitted to the following E-mail address:

johnson.marsha@epa.gov

If E-mail is not available to you, written or telephone inquiries may be directed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Attention: Marsha Johnson, SBIR Phase I  
RTP Procurement Operations Division (D143-01)  
Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27711  
Telephone: (919) 541-0952  
Fax: (919) 541-1075

Potential offerors are encouraged to communicate via E-mail.

## **II. DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this solicitation, the following definitions apply:

A. Research or Research and Development (R/R&D): Any activity that is:

(1) A systematic, intensive study directed toward greater knowledge or understanding of the subject studied;

(2) A systematic study directed specifically toward applying new knowledge to meet a recognized need; or

(3) A systematic application of knowledge toward the production of useful materials, devices, and systems or methods, including design, development, and improvement of prototypes and new processes to meet specific requirements.

B. Funding Agreement: Any contract, grant, or cooperative agreement entered into between any Federal Agency and any small business concern for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work, including products or services, funded in whole or in part by the Federal Government.

C. Subcontract: Any agreement, other than one involving an employer-employee relationship, entered into by an awardee of a funding agreement calling for supplies or services for the performance of the original funding agreement.

D. Small Business Concern: A small business concern is one that, at the time of award of Phase I and Phase II, meets all of the following criteria:

(1) Is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in the field of operation in which it is proposing, has a place of businesses in the United States and operates primarily within the United States or makes a significant contribution to the US economy, and is organized for profit.

(2) Is (a) at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are citizens of, or permanent resident aliens in, the United States or (b) it must be a for-profit business concern that is at least 51% owned and controlled by another for-profit business concern that is at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are citizens of, or permanent resident aliens in, the United States.

(3) Has, including its affiliates, an average number of employees for the preceding 12 months not exceeding 500, and meets the other regulatory requirements found in 13 CFR Part 121. Business concerns are generally considered to be affiliates of one another when either directly or indirectly, (a) one concern controls or has the power to control the other; or (b) a third-party/parties controls or has the power to control both.

Control can be exercised through common ownership, common management, and contractual relationships. The term "affiliates" is defined in greater detail in 13 CFR 121.103. The term "number of employees" is defined in 13 CFR 121.106.

A business concern may be in the form of an individual proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, joint venture, association, trust, or cooperative. Further information may be obtained at <http://sba.gov/size>, or by contacting the Small Business Administration's Government Contracting Area Office or Office of Size Standards.

E. Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Small Business Concern: A socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern is one that is at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, or an Indian tribe, including Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs), a Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO), or a Community Development Corporation (CDC). Control includes both the strategic planning (as that exercised by boards of directors) and the day-to-day management and administration of business operations. See 13 CFR 124.109, 124.110, and 124.111 for special rules pertaining to concerns owned by Indian tribes (including ANCs), NHOs or CDCs, respectively.

F. Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individual: A member of any of the following groups:

- (1) Black Americans;
- (2) Hispanic Americans;
- (3) Native Americans (American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, or Native Hawaiians);

- (4) Asian-Pacific Americans (persons with origins from Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, Japan, China (including Hong Kong), Taiwan, Laos, Cambodia (Kampuchea), Vietnam, Korea, The Philippines, U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Republic of Palau), Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Samoa, Macao, Fiji, Tonga, Kiribati, Tuvalu, or Nauru);
- (5) Subcontinent Asian Americans (persons with origins from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, the Maldives Islands, or Nepal); and
- (6) Other groups designated from time to time by SBA pursuant to Section 124.103 (d) of 13 CFR Ch.1(1-1-02 Edition).

G. Women-Owned Small Business Concern: A small business concern that is at least 51 % owned by and controlled by a woman or women. Control includes both the strategic planning (as that exercised by boards of directors) and the day-to-day management and administration of business operations.

H. Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone): A small business concern meeting the following requirements:

- (1) Located in a HUBZone area located in one or more of the following:
  - a) A qualified census tract (as defined in Section 42(d)(5)(C)(i)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
  - b) A qualified "non-metropolitan county" (as defined in Section 143 (k)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) with a median household income of less than 80 percent of the State median household income or with an unemployment rate of not less than 140 percent of the Statewide average, based on US Department of Labor recent data; or,
  - c) Lands within the boundaries of federally recognized Indian reservations.
- (2) Owned and controlled by one or more US Citizens; and,
- (3) At least 35% of its employees must reside in a HUBZONE.

I. Primary Employment: More than one-half of the principal investigator's time is spent in the employ of the small business concern.

J. United States: The 50 States, the Territories and possessions of the Federal Government, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

K. Commercialization: The process of developing marketable products or services and producing and delivering products or services for sale (whether by the originating party or by others) to Government or commercial markets.

L. SBIR Technical Data: All data generated during the performance of an SBIR award.

M. SBIR Technical Data Rights: The rights a small business concern obtains in data generated during the performance of any SBIR Phase I, Phase II, or Phase III award that an awardee delivers to the Government during or upon completion of a Federally-funded project, and to which the Government receives a license.

### III. PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

#### A. PROPOSAL PAGE LIMIT

Proposals submitted in response to this Phase I of the SBIR program shall not exceed a total of **25 pages**, one side only. The only exception would be regarding the requirements set forth in Section III.D.12, "Prior SBIR Awards". The **25 pages** shall include the cover page, budget, and all enclosures or attachments. Pages (including enclosures or attachments such as letters of recommendation) should be of standard size (8 ½" x 11"; 21.6 cm x 27.9 cm) with 2.5 cm margins and type no smaller than 10 point font size. All pages shall be consecutively numbered. **Proposals in excess of the 25 page limitation shall not be considered for review or award.** Any additional attachments, appendices or references beyond the 25-page limitation shall result in the proposal not being considered for review or award. A letter of transmittal is not necessary. If one is furnished, it shall not be attached to every copy of the proposal. If a letter of transmittal is attached to every copy of the proposal, it will be counted as page 1 of the proposal. No binders are necessary. If binders are provided, they will be counted as pages even if no printing or writing is thereon.

#### B. PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

The offeror shall photocopy (or download from the Internet) and complete Appendix A of this solicitation which has the relevant solicitation number as page 1 of each copy of each proposal. **No other cover shall be permitted.** When downloading the solicitation from the Internet, Appendix A may print on no more than two pages, but will only count as one page per Appendix. Offerors may reformat the forms to correct spacing and pagination errors, however, identical information shall be provided.

The original of the cover sheet shall contain the pen-and-ink signatures of the principal investigator and the corporate/business official authorized to sign the proposal.

#### C. PROJECT SUMMARY

The offeror shall complete Appendix B as page 2 of each proposal. Appendix B is limited to 1 page. The Project Summary shall include a technical abstract with a brief description of the problem or opportunity, the innovation, project objectives, and description of the effort. In summarizing anticipated results, the implications of the approach (for both Phases

I and II) and the potential commercial applications of the research shall be stated. **THE ABSTRACT (APPENDIX B) IS USED EXTENSIVELY DURING THE EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW AND EPA INTERNAL PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW.** The project summary and proposal title (Appendix B) of successful proposals will be published by EPA and, therefore, must not contain proprietary information. No changes shall be allowed.

#### D. TECHNICAL CONTENT

Begin the main body of the proposal on page 3. As a minimum, the following shall be included:

1. **IDENTIFICATION AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY.** A clear statement of the specific technical problem or opportunity addressed and the environmental benefits. **INFORMATION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TECHNOLOGY IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF THE EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW AND EPA INTERNAL PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW.** Where appropriate, proposals should describe the positive and negative environmental benefits based on an assessment of the full life cycle of the new product or technology. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) refers to the analysis of impacts throughout all stages of a product or process from production to use to disposal. Integration of a live cycle perspective into the environmental analysis typically considers impacts from raw materials extraction, manufacture, packaging, distribution and disposal.

2. **PHASE I OBJECTIVES.** State the specific objectives of Phase I research and development effort, including the technical questions it will try to answer to determine the feasibility of the proposed approach.

3. **PHASE I WORK PLAN.** This section provides a detailed description of the work plan. The work plan should describe what will be done, where it will be done and how the R/R&D will be carried out. The work planned to achieve each task should be discussed in detail, to enable a complete scientific and technical evaluation of the work plan. A work schedule should also be provided.

4. **RELATED RESEARCH OR R&D.** Describe significant research or R&D that is directly related to the proposal including any conducted by the project manager/principal investigator or by the proposing firm. Describe how it relates to the proposed effort, and any planned coordination with outside sources. Offerors must demonstrate their awareness of key recent research or R&D conducted by others in the specific topic area by providing appropriate references from the literature and other published documents.

5. **KEY PERSONNEL AND BIBLIOGRAPHY OF DIRECTLY RELATED WORK.** Identify key personnel involved in Phase I including their directly related education, experience and bibliographic information. Where vitae are extensive, summaries that focus on the most

relevant experience or publications are desired and may be necessary to meet proposal size limitations.

6. **RELATIONSHIP WITH FUTURE RESEARCH OR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.** State the anticipated results of the proposed approach if the project is successful (Phase I and II). A discussion of cost-effectiveness is paramount, especially comparing the state-of-the-art approaches with the proposed approach. Discuss the significance of the Phase I effort in providing a foundation for Phase II R/R&D effort.

7. **FACILITIES.** A detailed description, availability and location of instrumentation and physical facilities proposed for Phase I shall be provided.

8. **CONSULTANTS.** Involvement of consultants in the planning and research stages of the project is permitted. If such involvement is intended, it should be described in detail and vitae should be provided.

9. **COMMERCIALIZATION PLAN.** Provide an abbreviated 2-3 page plan related directly to producing an innovative product, process or device and getting it into commercial production and sales. Comprehensive business plans (that are company rather than project oriented) are not desired. The Phase I plan is a roadmap toward producing a detailed Phase II Commercialization Plan which shall be required as part of the Phase II Application.

NOTE: The Small Business Research and Development Enhancement Act of 1992 allows discretionary technical assistance to SBIR awardees. The Agency may provide up to \$4,000 of SBIR funds for technical assistance per award. EPA intends to provide Phase I awardees with technical assistance through a separate EPA arrangement. For Phase I, this assistance will be in addition to the award amount. For Phase II, the law allows each awardee to expend up to \$4,000 per year of the award amount for technical assistance services.

The Phase I plan shall provide limited information on the subjects described below. Explain what will be done during Phase I to decide on applications, markets, production and financing. The Commercialization Plan shall address:

- a. **SBIR Project:** Brief description of the company, its principal field(s) of interest, size and current products and sales. A concise description of the SBIR project and its key technical objectives.
- b. **Commercial Applications:** Potential commercial applications of the research results specifying customers and specific needs that will be satisfied. Have you or do you intend to file for one or more patents as a result of the SBIR project?
- c. **Competitive Advantages:** What is particularly innovative about the anticipated technology or products? (Innovation may be expressed in terms of applications,

performance, efficiencies or reduced cost. To determine if your innovation is likely to result in intellectual property that may be legally protected, it helps to conduct a patent search and look for related work being funded by EPA or another Federal agency. A fact sheet on how to search for patents and related federally-funded work is provided in Appendix E.) What significant advantages in application, performance, technique, efficiency, or costs, do you anticipate your new technology will have over existing technology? (In order to assess such advantages, it is useful to compare the anticipated performance of your technology against substitutable products currently being sold or emerging out of R&D. If regulations, industry standards or certifying requirements apply to your technology or product, these provide useful criteria for comparing your anticipated performance with potentially competing technology and products. However, other expressions of end-user needs may also contain important criteria).

- d. Markets: What are the anticipated specific markets for the resulting technology, their estimated size, classes of customers, and your estimated market share 5 years after the project is completed and/or first sales? Who are the major competitors in the markets, present and/or anticipated?
- e. Commercialization: Briefly describe how you plan to produce your product. Do you intend to manufacture it yourself, subcontract the manufacturing, enter into a joint venture or manufacturing agreement, license the product, etc.? Briefly describe the approach and steps you plan to take to commercialize the research results to significant sales. Do you plan to market the product yourself, through dealers, contract sales, marketing agreements, joint venture, sales representatives, foreign companies, etc.? How do you plan to raise money to support your commercialization plan?

10. SIMILAR OR CLOSELY RELATED SBIR AWARDS. If the small business concern has received ANY prior Phase I or Phase II award(s) from EPA or any Federal agency for similar or closely related research, submit name of awarding agency, date of award, funding agreement number, amount and topic or subtopic title. **DESCRIBE THE TECHNICAL DIFFERENCES AND REASONS WHY THE PROPOSED NEW PHASE I RESEARCH IS DIFFERENT FROM RESEARCH CONDUCTED UNDER PRIOR SBIR AWARDS.** (This required proposal information **shall** be counted toward proposal pages count limitation.)

11. DUPLICATE OR EQUIVALENT SBIR PROPOSALS. A firm may elect to submit essentially equivalent work under other Federal Program Solicitations. In these cases, a statement shall be included in each such proposal indicating: the name and address of the agencies to which proposals were submitted or from which awards were received; date of proposal submission or date of award; title, number, and date of solicitations under which proposals were submitted or awards received; specific applicable research topics for each proposal submitted or award received; titles of research projects; name and title of project manager or principal investigator for each proposal submitted or award received. (This information **shall** count toward proposal pages count limitation.)

12. PRIOR SBIR AWARDS. If the small business concern has received ANY prior Phase II award from any Federal agency in the prior 5 fiscal years, submit name of awarding agency, date of award, funding agreement number, amount, topic or subtopic title, follow-on agreement amount, source and date of commitment and current commercialization status for each Phase II. (This required proposal information shall be included as an attachment to the proposals and **shall not** be counted toward proposal pages count limitation.)

#### E. COST BREAKDOWN/PROPOSED BUDGET

Complete the budget form in Appendix C and include the form immediately after proposal Section D.11. Photocopy the form for the required copies for submission. Incorporate the copy of the budget form bearing the original signature into the copy of the proposal bearing the original signature on the cover page. The budget form will count as one page in the 25 page limit. If budget explanation pages are included, they will count toward the 25 page limit.

#### F. PHASE I QUALITY ASSURANCE NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Offerors shall state whether or not their proposal involves data collection or processing, environmental measurements, modeling, or the development of environmental technology (whether hardware-based or via new techniques). The Quality Assurance Narrative provides a statement on processes that will be used to assure that results of the research satisfy the intended project objectives. EPA is particularly interested in the quality controls for data generation and acquisition, and how data validation and usability will be verified. This quality assurance narrative statement shall not exceed two pages and will be included in the 25 page limitation for the proposal. For each item below, either present the required information, reference the specific location of the information in the proposal, or provide a justification of why the item does not apply to the proposed research.

1. Identify the individual who will be responsible for the quality assurance and quality control aspects of the research. (Quality assurance (QA) is an integrated system of management activities involving planning, implementation, documentation, assessment, and improvement to ensure that a process, or item is of the type and quality needed for the project. Quality control (QC) is the system of technical activities that measures the attributes and performance of a process or item against defined standards, to verify that they meet the stated requirements.)

2. Discuss the activities to be performed or the hypothesis to be tested and criteria for determining acceptable data quality. (Note: Such criteria may be expressed in terms of precision, accuracy, representativeness, completeness, and comparability or in terms of data quality objectives or acceptance and evaluation criteria.) Also, these criteria shall be applied to determine the acceptability of existing or secondary data to be used in the project. (In this context, secondary data may be defined as data previously collected for other purposes or from other sources.)

3. Describe the study design. Include sample type(s) and location requirements, all statistical analyses that were or will be used to estimate the types and numbers of physical samples required, *or* equivalent information for studies using survey and interview techniques, *or* describe how new technology will be benchmarked to improve existing processes, such as those used by industry.

4. Describe the procedures that will be used in the calibration and performance evaluation of all analytical instrumentation and all methods of analysis to be used during the project. Explain how the effectiveness of any new technology will be measured.

5. Describe the procedures for the handling and custody of samples, including sample collection, identification, preservation, transportation, and storage, or how the accuracy of test measurements will be verified.

6. Discuss the procedures for data reduction and reporting, including a description of all statistical methods to make inferences and conclusions, with identification of any statistical software to be used; discuss any computer models to be designed or utilized and describe the associated verification and validation techniques.

7. Describe the quantitative and/or qualitative procedures that will be used to evaluate the success of the project, including any plans for peer or other reviews of the study design or analytical methods prior to data collection.

8. The name and title of the company person responsible for tracking compliance of the SBIR contract activities with the requirements of the QA Plan.

A more detailed Proposal Quality Assurance Plan will be required in Phase II. The plan will be required as part of the first monthly report under the Phase II contract.

#### **IV. METHOD OF SELECTION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

All Phase I proposals will be evaluated and judged on a competitive basis by peer reviewers from outside EPA. Proposals will be initially screened to determine responsiveness. As noted in Section III, proposals exceeding the 25-page limitation will not be considered for review or award. Also, as noted in Section I, any proposal addressing more than one research topic and failing to identify the research topic by letter symbol on the cover page will not be considered for review or award. Proposals passing this initial screening will be reviewed for technical merit by external peer panels of technical experts, using the technical evaluation criteria described in A.1 below. Each of the criteria are equal in value. These panels will assign each proposal an adjectival rating of “excellent”, “very good”, “good”, “fair” or “poor”, using the specified criteria. The proposals assigned “excellent” and “very good” ratings, will then be subjected to the programmatic review within EPA, to further evaluate these applications in relation to program priorities and balance using the criteria specified in A.2 below. Each proposal will be judged on its own merit. The Agency is under no obligation to fund any

proposal or any specific number of proposals in a given topic. It also may elect to fund several or none of the proposed approaches to the same topic or subtopic.

#### A. TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW. The external peer review panels will utilize the following evaluation criteria to rate each proposal. The criteria are of equal importance.

##### CRITERIA

- a. The scientific and technical significance of the proposed technology and its appropriateness to the research topic. Quality and soundness of the research plan to establish the technical and commercial feasibility of the concept.
- b. The uniqueness/ingenuity of the proposed concept or application as technological innovation. Originality and innovativeness of the proposed research toward meeting customer needs and achieving commercialization of the technology.
- c. Potential demonstration of performance/cost effectiveness and environmental benefits associated with the proposed research, including risk reduction potential.
- d. Qualifications of the principal investigator, supporting staff and consultants. Time commitment of principal investigator and project team, adequacy of equipment and facilities and proposed budget to accomplish the proposed research. Adequacy and quality of the Quality Assurance Narrative Statement.
- e. Potential of the proposed concept for significant commercial applications. Potential for the commercialization plan to produce an innovative product, process or device and to put it into commercial production and sales. Potential market and competition and other financial/business indicators of commercialization potential and the offeror's SBIR or other research commercialization record.

All peer reviewers will be required to sign an agreement to protect the confidentiality of all proposal material, and to certify that no conflict of interest exists between the reviewer and the offeror. A copy of both forms is available upon request; however, the identity of the reviewer will not be released.

2. EPA PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW. The proposals that received ratings of "excellent" or "very good" by the External Peer Review Panel will be subject to the programmatic review by EPA program managers using the criteria set forth below to select which of the "excellent" and "very good" proposals will be funded. Projects will not be funded where EPA determines the proposed research is already being supported by EPA or another known source. The evaluation criteria "a" through "c" are of equal value and will be used to

evaluate the applications in relation to program priorities, balance and programmatic relevancy.

#### CRITERIA

- a. The potential of the technology to meet Agency program priorities and to strengthen the overall balance of the SBIR program. How well the technology fits into EPA's overall research strategy or program within the Phase I research topic.
- b. The potential of the technology for significant environmental benefits and for strengthening the scientific basis for risk assessment/risk management in the Agency research topic area.
- c. The potential of the technology to have broad application or to impact large segments of the population.

B. RELEASE OF PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION. After final award decisions have been announced, the technical evaluations of the offeror's proposal will be provided to the offeror. The identity of the reviewer shall not be disclosed.

### **V. CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **A. AWARDS**

The Government anticipates award of approximately 40 firm-fixed-price contracts of up to \$70,000 each including profit. It is expected that these contracts will be awarded with a contract start date of March 1, 2006. The period of performance for the contracts should not exceed six (6) months. The primary consideration in selecting proposals for award will be the technical merit of the proposal. Proposals shall be evaluated in accordance with the Technical Evaluation Criteria stated in IV. A. above. Source selection will not be based on a comparison of cost or price. However, cost or price will be evaluated to determine whether the price, including any proposed profit, is fair and reasonable and whether the offeror understands the work and is capable of performing the contract.

This current solicitation is for Phase I only, and the Government is not obligated to fund any specific Phase I proposal.

Funds are not presently available for this contract. The Government's obligation under this contract is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment for contract purposes can be made. No legal liability on the part of the Government for any payment may arise until funds are made available to the Contracting Officer for this contract and until the Contractor receives notice of such availability, to be confirmed in writing by the Contracting Officer.

#### **B. REPORTS**

1. All reports shall include the following information: EPA Contract Number; Project Title; and Period covered by the report.

2. The Contractor shall furnish a Monthly Report stating progress made. One (1) copy of the report shall be submitted to the Contract-level Contracting Officer's Representative with one (1) paper copy to the Contract Specialist. The report shall be submitted within 7 calendar days after the end of the reporting period. Specific areas of interest shall include progress made and difficulties encountered during the reporting period, and a statement of activities anticipated during the subsequent reporting period. The report shall include any changes in personnel associated with the project. Also, the first month's report shall contain a work plan and schedule of accomplishments for the subsequent months of the project. The Monthly Report shall include, as an attachment, a copy of the monthly voucher for the same period.

3. One (1) copy of a comprehensive Final Report on the Phase I project must be submitted to the Contract-level Contracting Officer's Representative by the completion date of the contract. The Contract Specialist shall receive one paper copy. This Final Report shall include a single-page project summary as the first page, identifying the purpose of the research, a brief description of the research carried out, the research findings or results, and potential applications of the research in a final paragraph. The balance of the report should indicate in detail the research objectives, research work carried out, results obtained, and estimates of technical feasibility. The report should include a discussion of any commercialization activity carried out during Phase I as well as future commercialization plans.

4. One (1) copy of a publishable (cleared for the general public) 2-3 page Executive Summary of the Final Report for Phase I must be submitted to the Contract-level Contracting Officer's Representative by the completion date of the contract. This special report should be a true summary of the report, including the purpose of the project, work carried out and results. The summary should stress innovativeness and potential commercialization. The Executive Summary will be placed on the EPA SBIR website, and therefore, it should include the specific results the company is willing to release to the public.

#### C. PAYMENT SCHEDULE - Phase I payments will be made as follows:

Eighteen percent (18%) of the total contract price upon receipt and acceptance of a proper invoice with each of the first five monthly reports. The remainder shall be paid upon receipt and acceptance of the final report. Pursuant to the provisions of FAR 52.232-25, "Prompt Payment", payment will be rendered within thirty (30) days after receipt of a proper invoice.

#### D. INNOVATIONS, INVENTIONS AND PATENTS

##### 1. LIMITED RIGHTS INFORMATION AND DATA

###### a. Proprietary Information

Information contained in unsuccessful proposals will remain the property of the offeror. The Government may, however, retain copies of all proposals. Public release of information in any proposal submitted will be subject to existing statutory and regulatory requirements.

If proprietary information is provided by an offeror in a proposal, which constitutes a trade secret, proprietary commercial or financial information, confidential personal information or data affecting the national security, it will be treated in confidence, to the extent permitted by law. This information must be clearly marked by the offeror with the term "confidential proprietary information" and the following legend must appear on the cover page of the proposal:

"These data shall not be not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed in whole or in part for any other purpose other than evaluation of this proposal. If a funding agreement is awarded to this offeror as a result of or in connection with the submission of these data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the funding agreement and pursuant to applicable law. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in the data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in pages \_\_\_\_\_ of this proposal."

Any other legend may be unacceptable to the Government and may constitute grounds for removing the proposal from further consideration, without assuming any liability for inadvertent disclosure. The Government will limit dissemination of such information to within official channels.

b. Alternative to Minimize Proprietary Information: Offerors shall limit proprietary information to only that absolutely essential to their proposal.

c. Rights in Data Developed Under SBIR Funding Agreements: The Contract will contain a data clause which will provide the following:

#### SBIR RIGHTS NOTICE (MAR 1994)

These SBIR data are furnished with SBIR rights under Contract No. \_\_\_\_\_ (and subcontract \_\_\_\_\_ if appropriate). For a period of four (4) years after acceptance of all items to be delivered under this contract, the Government agrees to use these data for Government purposes only, and they shall not be disclosed outside the Government (including disclosure for procurement purposes) during such period without permission of the Contractor,

except that, subject to the foregoing use and disclosure prohibitions, such data may be disclosed for use by support Contractors. After the aforesaid 4-year period the Government has a royalty-free license to use, and to authorize others to use on its behalf, these data for Government purposes, but is relieved of all disclosure prohibitions and assumes no liability for unauthorized use of these data by third parties. This Notice shall be affixed to any reproductions of these data, in whole or in part.

#### d. Copyrights

With prior written permission of the Contracting Officer, the Awardee normally may copyright and publish (consistent with appropriate national security considerations, if any) material developed with EPA support. EPA receives a royalty-free license for the Federal Government and requires that each publication contain an appropriate acknowledgment and disclaimer statement.

#### e. Patents

Small business concerns normally may retain the principal worldwide patent rights to any invention developed with Governmental support. The Government receives a royalty-free license for Federal Government use, reserves the right to require the patent holder to license others in certain circumstances, and requires that anyone exclusively licensed to sell the invention in the United States must normally manufacture it domestically. To the extent authorized by 35 U.S.C. 205, the Government will not make public any information disclosing a Government-supported invention for a 4-year period to allow the Awardee a reasonable time to pursue a patent.

### E. COST SHARING

Cost sharing is permitted for proposals under this Program Solicitation; however, cost sharing is not required nor will it be an evaluation factor in consideration of your proposal.

### F. PROFIT OR FEE

Reasonable fee (estimated profit) will be considered under this solicitation. For guidance purposes, the amount of profit normally shall not exceed 10% of total project costs.

### G. JOINT VENTURES OR LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS

Joint ventures and limited partnerships are eligible provided the entity created qualifies as a small business as defined in this Program Solicitation.

### H. RESEARCH AND ANALYTICAL WORK

1. For Phase I, a minimum of two-thirds of the research and/or analytical effort must be

performed by the proposing small business concern unless otherwise approved in writing by the Contracting Officer.

2. For Phase II, a minimum of one-half of the research and/or analytical effort must be performed by the proposing small business concern unless otherwise approved in writing by the Contracting Officer.

## I. CONTRACTOR COMMITMENTS

Upon award of a funding agreement, the Awardee will be required to make certain legal commitments through acceptance of numerous clauses in Phase I funding agreements. The outline that follows is illustrative of the types of clauses to which the Contractor would be committed. This list should not be understood to represent a complete list of clauses to be included in Phase I funding agreements, nor to be specific wording of such clauses. Copies of complete terms and conditions are available upon request.

1. INSPECTION. Work performed under the contract is subject to Government inspection and evaluation at all times.

2. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS. The Comptroller General (or a duly authorized representative) shall have the right to examine any directly pertinent records of the awardee involving transactions related to this contract.

3. DEFAULT. The Government may terminate the contract if the Contractor fails to perform the work contracted.

4. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE. The contract may be terminated at any time by the Government if it deems termination to be in its best interest, in which case the Contractor will be compensated for work performed and for reasonable termination costs.

5. DISPUTES. Any dispute concerning the funding agreement that cannot be resolved by agreement shall be decided by the Contracting Officer with right of appeal.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. The awardee will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

7. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR VETERANS. The awardee will not discriminate against any employee or application for employment because he or she is a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era.

8. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR HANDICAPPED. The awardee will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because he or she is physically or mentally handicapped.

9. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT. No Government official shall benefit personally from the contract.

10. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES. No person or agency has been employed to solicit or secure the contract upon an understanding for compensation except bonafide employees or commercial agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business.

11. GRATUITIES. The contract may be terminated by the Government if any gratuities have been offered to any representative of the Government to secure the contract.

12. PATENT INFRINGEMENT. The Contractor shall report each notice or claim of patent infringement based on the performance of the contract.

13. AMERICAN MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS. When purchasing equipment or a product under the SBIR funding agreement, purchase only American-made items whenever possible.

#### J. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The Program Solicitation is intended for informational purposes and reflects current planning. If there is any inconsistency between the information contained herein and the terms of any resulting SBIR funding agreement, the terms of the funding agreement are controlling.

2. Before award of an SBIR funding agreement, the Government may request the offeror to submit certain organizational, management, personnel, and financial information to assure responsibility of the offeror.

3. The Government is not responsible for any monies expended by the offeror before award of any funding agreement.

4. This Program Solicitation is not an offer by the Government and does not obligate the Government to make any specific number of awards. Also, awards under the SBIR program are contingent upon the availability of funds.

5. The EPA SBIR program is not a substitute for existing unsolicited proposal mechanisms. Unsolicited proposals shall not be accepted under the EPA SBIR program in either Phase I or Phase II.

6. If an award is made pursuant to a proposal submitted under this Program Solicitation, the Contractor will be required to certify that he or she has not previously been, nor is currently being, paid for essentially equivalent work by any agency of the Federal Government.

7. Notwithstanding the relatively broad definition of R/R&D in Section II, Definitions,

hereof, awards under this solicitation are limited to APPLIED forms of research. Proposals that are surveys, including market, state-of the-art and/or literature surveys, which should have been performed by the offeror prior to the preparation of the proposal, or the preparation of allied questionnaires and instruction manuals, shall not be accepted. If such proposals are submitted, they shall be considered as not in compliance with the solicitation intent, and therefore, technically unacceptable.

8. The requirement that the offeror designate a topic, and only one topic, (see page 1, Section I above) is also necessary. EPA receives hundreds of proposals each year and has special teams of reviewers for review of each research topic. In order to assure that proposals are evaluated by the correct team, it is the complete responsibility of the offeror to select and identify the best topic.

9. Instructions to Offerors - Competitive Acquisition (Jan 2004) FAR 52.215-1

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision- Discussions are negotiations that occur after establishment of the competitive range that may, at the Contracting Officer's discretion, result in the offeror being allowed to revise its proposal.

"In writing," "writing," or "written" means any worded or numbered expression that can be read, reproduced, and later communicated, and includes electronically transmitted and stored information.

"Proposal modification" is a change made to a proposal before the solicitation's closing date and time, or made in response to an amendment, or made to correct a mistake at any time before award.

"Proposal revision" is a change to a proposal made after the solicitation closing date, at the request of or as allowed by a Contracting Officer as the result of negotiations.

"Time," if stated as a number of days, is calculated using calendar days, unless otherwise specified, and will include Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. However, if the last day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the period shall include the next working day.

(b) *Amendments to solicitations.* If this solicitation is amended, all terms and conditions that are not amended remain unchanged. Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation by the date and time specified in the amendment(s).

(c) *Submission, modification, revision, and withdrawal of proposals.* (1) Unless other methods (e.g., electronic commerce or facsimile) are permitted in the solicitation, proposals and modifications to proposals shall be submitted in paper media in sealed envelopes or packages (I) addressed to the office specified in the solicitation, and (ii) showing the time and date specified for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror. Offerors

using commercial carriers should ensure that the proposal is marked on the outermost wrapper with the information in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) and (c)(1)(ii) of this provision.

(2) The first page of the proposal must show-

(i) The solicitation number;

(ii) The name, address, and telephone and facsimile numbers of the offeror (and electronic address if available);

(iii) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions included in the solicitation and agreement to furnish any or all items upon which prices are offered at the price set opposite each item;

(iv) Names, titles, and telephone and facsimile numbers (and electronic addresses if available) of persons authorized to negotiate on the offeror's behalf with the Government in connection with this solicitation; and

(v) Name, title, and signature of person authorized to sign the proposal. Proposals signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the issuing office.

(3) *Submission, modification, revision, and withdrawal of proposals.* (i) Offerors are responsible for submitting proposals, and any modifications or revisions so as to reach the Government office designated in the solicitation by the time specified in the solicitation. If no time is specified in the solicitation, the time for receipt is 4:30 p.m., local time, for the designated Government office on the date that proposal or revision is due.

(ii)(A) Any proposal, modification or revision received at the Government office designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt of offers is "late" and will not be considered unless it is received before award is made, the Contracting Officer determines that accepting the late offer would not unduly delay the acquisition; and--

(1) If it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the solicitation, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals; or

(2) There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the Government installation designated for receipt of offers and was under the Government's control prior to the time set for receipt of offers; or

(3) It is the only proposal received.

(B) However, a late modification of an otherwise successful proposal that makes its

terms more favorable to the Government, will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(iii) Acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the proposal wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

(iv) If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that proposals cannot be received at the office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the solicitation, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the solicitation, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

(v) Proposals may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before award. Oral proposals in response to oral solicitations may be withdrawn orally. If the solicitation authorizes facsimile proposals, proposals may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before award, subject to the conditions specified in the provision at 52.215-5, Facsimile Proposals. Proposals may be withdrawn in person by an offeror or an authorized representative, if the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the proposal before award.

(4) Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, the offeror may propose to provide any item or combination of items.

(5) Offerors shall submit proposals in response to this solicitation in English, unless otherwise permitted by the solicitation, and in U.S. dollars, unless the provision at FAR 52.225-17, Evaluation of Foreign Currency Offers, is included in the solicitation.

(6) Offerors may submit modifications to their proposals at any time before the solicitation closing date and time, and may submit modifications in response to an amendment, or to correct a mistake at any time before award.

(7) Offerors may submit revised proposals only if requested or allowed by the Contracting Officer.

(8) Proposals may be withdrawn at any time before award. Withdrawals are effective upon receipt of notice by the Contracting Officer.

(d) *Offer expiration date.* Proposals in response to this solicitation will be valid for the number of days specified on the solicitation cover sheet (unless a different period is proposed by the offeror).

(e) *Restriction on disclosure and use of data.* Offerors that include in their proposals data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose, or used by the Government except for evaluation purposes, shall-

(1) Mark the title page with the following legend: This proposal includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed-in whole or in part-for any purpose other than to evaluate this proposal. If, however, a contract is awarded to this offeror as a result of-or in connection with-the submission of this data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting contract. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets [insert numbers or other identification of sheets]; and

(2) Mark each sheet of data it wishes to restrict with the following legend: Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this proposal.

(f) *Contract award.* (1) The Government intends to award a contract or contracts resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror(s) whose proposal(s) represents the best value after evaluation in accordance with the factors and subfactors in the solicitation.

(2) The Government may reject any or all proposals if such action is in the Government's interest.

(3) The Government may waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received.

(4) The Government intends to evaluate proposals and award a contract without discussions with offerors (except clarifications as described in FAR 15.306(a)). Therefore, the offeror's initial proposal should contain the offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint. The Government reserves the right to conduct discussions if the Contracting Officer later determines them to be necessary. If the Contracting Officer determines that the number of proposals that would otherwise be in the competitive range exceeds the number at which an efficient competition can be conducted, the Contracting Officer may limit the number of proposals in the competitive range to the greatest number that will permit an efficient competition among the most highly rated proposals.

(5) The Government reserves the right to make an award on any item for a quantity less than the quantity offered, at the unit cost or prices offered, unless the offeror specifies otherwise in the proposal.

(6) The Government reserves the right to make multiple awards if, after considering the additional administrative costs, it is in the Government's best interest to do so.

(7) Exchanges with offerors after receipt of a proposal do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by the Government.

(8) The Government may determine that a proposal is unacceptable if the prices proposed are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of cost or price analysis techniques. A proposal may be rejected if the Contracting Officer determines that the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk to the Government.

(9) If a cost realism analysis is performed, cost realism may be considered by the source selection authority in evaluating performance or schedule risk.

(10) A written award or acceptance of proposal mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time specified in the proposal shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party.

(11) If a post-award debriefing is given to requesting offerors, the Government shall disclose the following information, if applicable:

(i) The agency's evaluation of the significant weak or deficient factors in the debriefed offeror's offer.

(ii) The overall evaluated cost or price and technical rating of the successful and the debriefed offeror and past performance information on the debriefed offeror.

(iii) The overall ranking of all offerors, when any ranking was developed by the agency during source selection.

(iv) A summary of the rationale for award.

(v) For acquisitions of commercial items, the make and model of the item to be delivered by the successful offeror.

(vi) Reasonable responses to relevant questions posed by the debriefed offeror as to whether source-selection procedures set forth in the solicitation, applicable regulations, and other applicable authorities were followed by the agency.

(11) Organizational Conflicts of Interest (EPAAR 1552.209-71) (May 1994) Alternate I (May 1994)

(a) The Contractor warrants that, to the best of the Contractor's knowledge and belief, there are no relevant facts or circumstances which could give rise to an organizational conflict of interest, as defined in FAR Subpart 9.5, or that the Contractor has disclosed all such relevant

information.

(b) Prior to commencement of any work, the Contractor agrees to notify the Contracting Officer immediately that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, no actual or potential conflict of interest exists or to identify to the Contracting Officer any actual or potential conflict of interest the firm may have. In emergency situations, however, work may begin but notification shall be made within five (5) working days.

(c) The Contractor agrees that if an actual or potential organizational conflict of interest is identified during performance, the Contractor will immediately make a full disclosure in writing to the Contracting Officer. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Contractor has taken or proposes to take, after consultation with the Contracting Officer, to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict of interest. The Contractor shall continue performance until notified by the Contracting Officer of any contrary action to be taken.

(d) Remedies - The EPA may terminate this contract for convenience, in whole or in part, if it deems such termination necessary to avoid an organizational conflict of interest. If the Contractor was aware of a potential organizational conflict of interest prior to award or discovered an actual or potential conflict after award and did not disclose it or misrepresented relevant information to the Contracting Officer, the Government may terminate the contract for default, debar the Contractor from Government contracting, or pursue such other remedies as may be permitted by law or this contract.

(e) The Contractor agrees to insert in each subcontract or consultant agreement placed hereunder provisions which shall conform substantially to the language of this clause, including this paragraph, unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer.

(12) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number, (Oct 2003), FAR 52.204-6

(a) The offeror shall enter, in the block with its name and address on the cover page of its offer, the annotation "DUNS" followed by the DUNS number that identifies the offeror's name and address exactly as stated in the offer. The DUNS number is a nine-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services.

(b) If the Offeror does not have a DUNS number, it should contact Dun and Bradstreet directly to obtain one. A DUNS number will be provided immediately by telephone at no charge to the offeror. For information on obtaining a DUNS number, the offeror, if located within the United States, should call Dun and Bradstreet at 1-800-333-0505. The offeror should be prepared to provide the following information:

- (1) Company name.
- (2) Company address.
- (3) Company telephone number.
- (4) Line of business.

- (5) Chief executive officer/key manager.
- (6) Date the company was started.
- (7) Number of people employed by the company.
- (8) Company affiliation.

(c) Offerors located outside the United States may obtain the location and phone number of the local Dun and Bradstreet Information Services office from the Internet home page at <http://www.customerservice@dnb.com>. If an offeror is unable to locate a local service center, it may send an e-mail to Dun and Bradstreet at [globalinfo@mail.dnb.com](mailto:globalinfo@mail.dnb.com).

(13) Central Contractor Registration, (Oct 2003), FAR 52.204-7

(a) Definitions. As used in this clause--

“Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database” means the primary Government repository for Contractor information required for the conduct of business with the Government.

“Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number” means the 9-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to identify unique business entities.

“Data Universal Numbering System +4 (DUNS+4) number” means the DUNS number assigned by D&B plus a 4-character suffix that may be assigned by a business concern. (D&B has no affiliation with this 4-character suffix.) This 4-character suffix may be assigned at the discretion of the business concern to establish additional CCR records for identifying alternative Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) accounts (see the FAR at Subpart 32.11) for the same parent concern.

“Registered in the CCR database” means that--

(1) The Contractor has entered all mandatory information, including the DUNS number or the DUNS+4 number, into the CCR database; and

(2) The Government has validated all mandatory data fields and has marked the record “Active”.

(b)(1) By submission of an offer, the offeror acknowledges the requirement that a prospective awardee shall be registered in the CCR database prior to award, during performance, and through final payment of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchasing agreement resulting from this solicitation.

(2) The offeror shall enter, in the block with its name and address on the cover page of its offer, the annotation “DUNS” or “DUNS +4” followed by the DUNS or DUNS +4 number that identifies the offeror's name and address exactly as stated in the offer. The DUNS number will be used by the Contracting Officer to verify that the offeror is registered in the CCR database.

(c) If the offeror does not have a DUNS number, it should contact Dun and Bradstreet directly to obtain one.

(1) An offeror may obtain a DUNS number--

(i) If located within the United States, by calling Dun and Bradstreet at 1-866-705-5711 or via the Internet at <http://www.dnb.com>; or

(ii) If located outside the United States, by contacting the local Dun and Bradstreet office.

(2) The offeror should be prepared to provide the following information:

(i) Company legal business.

(ii) Tradestyle, doing business, or other name by which your entity is commonly recognized.

(iii) Company Physical Street Address, City, State, and Zip Code.

(iv) Company Mailing Address, City, State and Zip Code (if separate from physical).

(v) Company Telephone Number.

(vi) Date the company was started.

(vii) Number of employees at your location.

(viii) Chief executive officer/key manager.

(ix) Line of business (industry).

(x) Company Headquarters name and address (reporting relationship within your entity).

(d) If the Offeror does not become registered in the CCR database in the time prescribed by the Contracting Officer, the Contracting Officer will proceed to award to the next otherwise successful registered Offeror.

(e) Processing time, which normally takes 48 hours, should be taken into consideration when registering. Offerors who are not registered should consider applying for registration immediately upon receipt of this solicitation.

(f) The Contractor is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the data within the CCR database, and for any liability resulting from the Government's reliance on inaccurate or incomplete data. To remain registered in the CCR database after the initial registration, the

Contractor is required to review and update on an annual basis from the date of initial registration or subsequent updates its information in the CCR database to ensure it is current, accurate and complete. Updating information in the CCR does not alter the terms and conditions of this contract and is not a substitute for a properly executed contractual document.

(g)(1)(i) If a Contractor has legally changed its business name, “doing business as” name, or division name (whichever is shown on the contract), or has transferred the assets used in performing the contract, but has not completed the necessary requirements regarding novation and change-of-name agreements in Subpart 42.12, the Contractor shall provide the responsible Contracting Officer a minimum of one business day's written notification of its intention to (A) change the name in the CCR database; (B) comply with the requirements of Subpart 42.12 of the FAR; and (C) agree in writing to the timeline and procedures specified by the responsible Contracting Officer. The Contractor must provide with the notification sufficient documentation to support the legally changed name.

(ii) If the Contractor fails to comply with the requirements of paragraph (g)(1)(i) of this clause, or fails to perform the agreement at paragraph (g)(1)(i)(C) of this clause, and, in the absence of a properly executed novation or change-of-name agreement, the CCR information that shows the Contractor to be other than the Contractor indicated in the contract will be considered to be incorrect information within the meaning of the “Suspension of Payment” paragraph of the electronic funds transfer (EFT) clause of this contract.

(2) The Contractor shall not change the name or address for EFT payments or manual payments, as appropriate, in the CCR record to reflect an assignee for the purpose of assignment of claims (see FAR Subpart 32.8, Assignment of Claims). Assignees shall be separately registered in the CCR database. Information provided to the Contractor's CCR record that indicates payments, including those made by EFT, to an ultimate recipient other than that Contractor will be considered to be incorrect information within the meaning of the “Suspension of payment” paragraph of the EFT clause of this contract.

(h) Offerors and Contractors may obtain information on registration and annual confirmation requirements via the internet at <http://www.ccr.gov> or by calling 1-888-227-2423, or 269-961-5757.

#### (14) Annual Representations and Certifications, (Jan 2005), FAR 52.204-8

(a)(1) If the clause at 52.204-7, Central Contractor Registration, is included in this solicitation, paragraph (b) of this provision applies. (2) If the clause at 52.204-7 is not included in this solicitation, and the offeror is currently registered in CCR, and has completed the ORCA electronically, the offeror may choose to use paragraph (b) instead of completing the corresponding individual representations and certifications in the solicitation. The offeror shall indicate which option applies by checking one of the following boxes: ☐ (i) Paragraph (b) applies. ☐ (ii) Paragraph (b) does not apply and the offeror has completed the individual representations and certifications in the solicitation. (b) The offeror has completed the annual

representations and certifications electronically via the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) website at <http://orca.bpn.gov>. After reviewing the ORCA database information, the offeror verifies by submission of the offer that the representations and certifications currently posted electronically have been entered or updated within the last 12 months, are current, accurate, complete, and applicable to this solicitation (including the business size standard applicable to the NAICS code referenced for this solicitation), as of the date of this offer and are incorporated in this offer by reference (see FAR 4.1201); except for the changes identified below [offeror to insert changes, identifying change by clause number, title, date]. These amended representation(s) and/or certification(s) are also incorporated in this offer and are current, accurate, and complete as of the date of this offer.

FAR Clause # Title Date Change			

Any changes provided by the offeror are applicable to this solicitation only, and do not result in an update to the representations and certifications posted on ORCA.

(15) Small Business Program Representations (Apr 2002) FAR 52.219-1

(a)(1) The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this acquisition is 541710.

(2) The small business size standard is 500 employees.

(3) The small business size standard for a concern which submits an offer in its own name, other than on a construction or service contract, but which proposes to furnish a product which it did not itself manufacture, is 500 employees.

(b) *Representations.*

(1) The offeror represents as part of its offer that it [ ] is, [ ] is not a small business concern.

(2) *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.]* The offeror represents, for general statistical purposes, that it ☐ is, ☐ is not, a small disadvantaged business concern as defined in 13 CFR 124.1002.

(3) *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.]* The offeror represents as part of its offer that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a women-owned small business concern.

(4) *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.]* The offeror represents as part of its offer that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a veteran-owned small business concern.

(5) *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a veteran-owned small business concern in paragraph (b)(4) of this provision.]* The offeror represents as part of its offer that is ☐ is, ☐ is not a service-disabled veteran-owned small business concern.

(6) *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.]* The offeror represents, as part of its offer, that--

(i) It ☐ is, ☐ is not a HUBZone small business concern listed, on the date of this representation, on the List of Qualified HUBZone Small Business Concerns maintained by the Small Business Administration, and no material change in ownership and control, principal office, or HUBZone employee percentage has occurred since it was certified by the Small Business Administration in accordance with 13 CFR part 126; and

(ii) It ☐ is, ☐ is not a joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR part 126, and the representation in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this provision is accurate for the HUBZone small business concern or concerns that are participating in the joint venture. *[The offeror shall enter the name or names of the HUBZone small business concern or concerns that are participating in the joint venture:\_\_\_\_\_.]* Each HUBZone small business concern participating in the joint venture shall submit a separate signed copy of the HUBZone representation.

(c) *Definitions.* As used in this provision--

"Service-disabled veteran-owned small business concern"-

(1) Means a small business concern-

(i) Not less than 51 percent of which is owned by one or more service-disabled veterans or, in the case of any publicly owned business, not less than 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more service-disabled veterans; and

(ii) The management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more service-disabled veterans or, in the case of a service-disabled veteran with permanent and severe disability, the spouse or permanent caregiver of such veteran.

(2) Service-disabled veteran means a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), with a disability that is service-connected, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(16).

"Small business concern," means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is bidding on Government contracts, and qualified as a small business under the criteria in 13 CFR Part 121 and the size standard in paragraph (a) of this provision.

"Veteran-owned small business concern" means a small business concern-

(1) Not less than 51 percent of which is owned by one or more veterans (as defined at 38 U.S.C. 101(2)) or, in the case of any publicly owned business, not less than 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more veterans; and

(2) The management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more veterans.

"Women-owned small business concern," means a small business concern --

(1) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more women; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more women; and

(2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more women.

(d) *Notice.*

(1) If this solicitation is for supplies and has been set aside, in whole or in part, for small business concerns, then the clause in this solicitation providing notice of the set-aside contains restrictions on the source of the end items to be furnished.

(2) Under 15 U.S.C. 645(d), any person who misrepresents a firm's status as a small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, or women-owned small business concern in order to obtain a contract to be awarded under the preference programs established pursuant to section 8(a), 8(d), 9, or 15 of the Small Business Act or any other provision of Federal law that specifically references section 8(d) for a definition of program eligibility, shall --

(i) Be punished by imposition of fine, imprisonment, or both;

(ii) Be subject to administrative remedies, including suspension and debarment; and

(iii) Be ineligible for participation in programs conducted under the authority of the Act.

## **VI. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

A. Your proposal with an original and nine (9) copies shall be received at one of the following addresses by 12:00 p.m. (Noon), local time, on May 25, 2005.

### **U.S. MAIL ADDRESS:**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Solicitation No. PR-NC-05-10246 - SBIR Phase I  
Closing Date: May 25, 2004 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)  
Attention: Marsha Johnson, SBIR Phase I  
RTP Procurement Operations Division (D143-01)  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

### **HAND CARRIED/COURIER ADDRESS:**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Solicitation No. PR-NC-05-10246 - SBIR Phase I  
Closing Date: May 25, 2005 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)  
Attention: Marsha Johnson, SBIR Phase I  
RTP Procurement Operations Division (D143-01)  
4930 Page Road  
Durham, NC 27703

**IMPORTANT!!! Please note Section V, Paragraph J.9(c) concerning Late Proposals, Modifications of Proposals and Withdrawal of Proposals.**

**Telegraphic, telecopied or facsimile proposals will NOT be considered for award.**

B. Please do not use special bindings or covers. Staple the pages in the upper left corner of the cover sheet of each proposal.

C. All copies of a proposal shall be sent in the same package.

D. The proposal should be self-contained and written with the care and thoughtfulness accorded papers for publication.

## **VII. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION SOURCES**

(See Appendix D)

## **VIII. SBIR PHASE I RESEARCH TOPICS**

Program Scope: The objective of this solicitation is to increase the incentive and opportunity for small firms to undertake cutting edge, high-risk, or long-term research that has a high potential payoff if the research is successful. Federal support of the front-end research on new ideas, often the highest risk part of the innovation process, may provide small businesses sufficient incentive to pursue such research.

EPA's SBIR program does not fund basic research or literature searches. It is recognized that any research and development project starts out as a concept of the inventor. Basic theoretic research studies and preliminary laboratory testing of the concept are often needed to develop

an idea. Literature and other surveys and questionnaires are also needed to rule out duplication and inappropriate research study and process detail, finally leading to the process design of a prototype apparatus or process that could be tested to show the feasibility of the innovation. These basic research activities and preliminary studies should be completed before preparing an SBIR proposal. Processes involving anthropogenic radioactive materials or the application of fertilizers are addressed by other Agencies and are not included in this solicitation. Technologies that only involve fuel savings without other direct environmental benefits, are also addressed by other Agencies and are not included in this solicitation.

**Research Topics:** The proposed research must directly pertain to EPA's environmental mission and must be responsive to EPA program interests included in the topic descriptions of this solicitation. The research should be the basis for technological innovation resulting in new commercial products, processes, or services which benefit the public and promote the growth of the small business. This SBIR Solicitation is focused on 4 main topic areas: (A) Mid-Atlantic Environmental Problems (EPA Region 3), (B) Pacific Northwest Environmental Problems (EPA Region 10), (C) Minimization, Monitoring and Remediation of Hazardous Waste (EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER)), and (D) Critical EPA Research Topics. The 4 topic areas and their individual topics are shown in the Table on page 2 of this solicitation.

Small businesses located anywhere in the US may prepare a proposal for any topic in this solicitation and the proposal can address an environmental topic affecting any geographic area of the US. This solicitation is available from March 24, 2005 until May 25, 2005 on the EPA SBIR website ([www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir](http://www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir)) or by calling the EPA SBIR help line (800-490-9194).

#### A. MID-ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (EPA REGION 3)

EPA Region 3 is responsible for environmental protection in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. Region 3 research topics focus on important problems in these states. Region 3 is headquartered in Philadelphia and contains two of the nation's major estuaries, the Chesapeake Bay and the Delaware Bay. The Region is responsible for 21,000 air pollution sources, 12,000 water pollution sources and 425 hazardous waste facilities. There are 1,500 potential hazardous waste dump sites and 165 sites are included or proposed on the Superfund National Priorities List.

Small businesses anywhere in the nation may submit a proposal for any Region 3 topic and the proposal may address the environmental problem whether the geographic focus is Region 3 or another geographic area in the US. There are four EPA Region 3 topics in this solicitation: (A1) Management of poultry and other animal feeding operations; (A2) Drinking water and detection of lead service lines; (A3) Pollution indicators for beaches and recreational waters and (A4) In-

situ cleanup of contaminated sediments.

#### **A1. MANAGEMENT OF POULTRY AND OTHER ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS**

Preventing and controlling water pollution from poultry operations and other animal feeding operations (AFOs) is a major priority. Region 3 has poultry operations that contribute to water pollution. In addition to poultry, AFOs include cattle feedlots, hog operations and dairies that confine large numbers of animals and store wastewater and manure in a contained area for extended periods of time. Animal feeding operations are typically conducted on a small amount of land where feed is brought to the animals. Different types of animal feeding operations have similar environmental problems. For example, a single cow produces 120 pounds of wet manure per day or 22 tons of waste per year - a total of more than 30 million tons of waste. (For more information on AFOs, see: [www.epa.gov/npdes/afo](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/afo).)

Animal waste, wastewater and manure need to be treated effectively and systems need to be managed to avoid accidents, spills or excessive runoff into receiving waters. Surface water can be polluted by rainy season stormwater sweeping manure into the nearest ditch or stream, or by leaching of waste material (e.g., nitrates and salts, pathogens -- bacterial and viral, veterinary pharmaceuticals) into groundwater. Ammonia, methane and particulate emissions can be significant air pollutants associated with poultry and AFOs. These problems are a priority in Region 3 as well as in many other parts of the US. Examples of technology needs for poultry operations and other AFOs include, but are not limited to:

- Cost-effective, green poultry and AFO technologies that reduce water pollution, including development of alternative uses for poultry and AFO residuals;
- EPA is interested in new poultry and AFO additives that do not contain arsenic or other problem contaminants associated with feed additives;
- New, cost effective and efficient technologies to manage poultry and AFO wastes, wastewaters and solids, especially those that reduce releases of nutrients, veterinary pharmaceuticals (e.g., antibiotics), arsenic and pathogens;
- New technologies that reduce air pollution from poultry and other AFOs, particularly pathogens, arsenic, ammonia, methane and particulate matter;
- Improvements in land application technologies and practices for poultry operations and

AFOs to prevent or reduce surface water and groundwater contamination from animal wastes;

- Cost-effective technologies to monitor potentially affected water bodies, groundwater and soil where animal wastes from concentrated animal feeding operations are managed using best management technologies and nutrient management plans (i.e., land application). The contaminants of concern include nitrogen, phosphorus, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, metals and hormones.

## **A2. DRINKING WATER AND DETECTION OF LEAD SERVICE LINES**

### DETECTION OF LEAD SERVICE LINES

Drinking water from drinking water treatment system and water distribution mains has very low levels of lead, typically lower than 2 ppb. But as the water moves from the water mains at the street through the service lines inside property lines and into homes, schools, businesses, etc., lead levels may increase. When water spends several hours in the lead service lines without moving, it can absorb lead from corroding lead service lines and/or from lead in the building plumbing. Elevated lead levels in tap water have been found in Washington, DC and other urban areas with lead service lines. Orthophosphate is a commonly used corrosion inhibitor that is added to finished drinking water to form a protective coating inside the lead service line pipes to prevent lead from leaching into drinking water. If corrosion control has been optimized and lead levels are still excessive, lead service lines and lead plumbing may need to be replaced (which is often difficult and expensive). Research needs include:

- New, non-invasive **lead** service pipe detection technologies to more easily, quickly and reliably identify lead service lines.

### TREATMENT AND MONITORING

EPA also needs new treatment and measurement technologies, especially for small systems, for organic and inorganic contaminants, and disease-causing organisms. Microorganisms of concern include *Cryptosporidium* and other cyst-like organisms and emerging pathogens such as caliciviruses, microsporidia, echoviruses, coxsackieviruses, adenoviruses, and others on the Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List.

(See [www.epa.gov/OGWDW/ccl/cclfs.html](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/ccl/cclfs.html)) Areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Improved detection and measurement techniques for algal neurotoxins and cytotoxins in

drinking water systems.

- Improved detection and measurement techniques for microbial pathogens that also address viability or infectivity.
- Development of innovative unit processes, particularly for small systems, for removal or inactivation of contaminants such as arsenic, perchlorate, aluminum, pesticides, and pathogens.
- Alternatives to chlorine disinfection for inactivating pathogenic microorganisms, including innovative applications of ultraviolet radiation and processes that improve overall effectiveness while using reduced amounts of disinfectant.

### **A3. POLLUTION INDICATORS FOR BEACHES AND RECREATIONAL WATERS**

#### **BEACH INDICATORS**

On April 20, 2004, EPA issued the Clean Beaches Plan under the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act of 2000. The Clean Beaches Plan implements a strategy for reducing the risks of illness from swimming, bathing and other activities in coastal areas, lakes and rivers that contain disease-causing microbes. In 1996 over 2,500 beaches in the US were posted with warnings or closed for at least one day because the water was contaminated. For more information on the Clean Beaches Plan, visit [www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/plan.htm](http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/plan.htm)

Most disease causing microbes exist in very small amounts and are difficult and expensive to detect in water samples. Indicator organisms (e.g., *E. coli*, fecal coliforms, enterococci, etc.) have been used for many years to identify where fecal contamination has occurred and therefore where disease-causing microbes may be present. These organisms generally do not cause illness themselves. They have characteristics that make them good indicators that fecal contamination has occurred and that harmful pathogens may be in the water. Areas of needed research include, but are not limited to:

- Rapid analytical methods to identify risk before exposure takes place. Current testing for pathogen presence require 24 to 48 hours of incubation before problems can be detected. Real-time or near-time analytical technologies such as a simple dipstick, color-change test or new instrument for detecting human fecal contamination are needed to provide

immediate identification of potential problems. These real-time or near-time results would ideally trigger warnings or at least set in motion a more rigorous monitoring protocol.

- Better indicators of potential presence of enteric pathogens. These technologies should indicate the presence of pathogens that may have longer incubation times, lower infective doses or cause more serious disease than pathogens currently identified with swimming-associated illness.

## POLLUTANT MARKERS AND MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING

Forest, pastureland and storm water runoff often carry fecal material of animals into recreational waters. Aquatic birds are also a source of fecal contamination. Analytical methods are currently unable to distinguish between human and animal fecal contamination. Distinguishing between human and animal sources of contamination is important not only to locate sources, but because not all animal pathogens cause human disease, their presence may lead to unnecessary precautions. Microbial source tracking also holds the promise of turning non-point source fecal contamination from agricultural sources into identifiable contamination priorities. EPA needs include:

- New cost effective low-technology analytical methods that distinguish between human and animal fecal contamination. Real-time and near-time technologies are most desirable.

### **A4. IN-SITU CLEANUP OF CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS**

Baltimore Harbor, the upper Delaware River estuary and the Elizabeth, Anacostia, Ohio and Schuylkill Rivers have hazardous waste contamination of near-shore and other sediments that have impacted marine life, disrupted the ecological food chain and resulted in fish advisories to protect human health. Similar problems have been encountered in Harbor Island in Seattle, Commencement Bay in Tacoma, WA, New York's Hudson River, the Great Lakes Basin and the New Bedford Harbor in Massachusetts. Many urban rivers, harbors and bays are much cleaner now, but the sediments have concentrated polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), creosote, pentachlorophenol and heavy metals like arsenic and mercury. Years of dumping by chemical plants, refineries, wood preservers, painting and electroplating shops, shipyards and others have contaminated the sediments.

Dredging has often been the preferred solution, but it is expensive and may have impacts on the ecosystem. Even specialized equipment resuspends some of the contaminated sediment within the water column. There are also challenges associated with disposal of the dredged sediment, particularly when the sediments are extremely contaminated. Areas of needed research

include, but are not limited to:

- Development of technologies that inject materials like highly reactive nanoscale zero-valent metal particles, iron oxide or calcium carbonate for in-situ decontamination of highly contaminated sediment hot spots. Other improvements are needed to accelerate in-situ decontamination, such as using specialized catalysts or coatings or delivering the material as an emulsion.
- Development of specialized technologies such as in-situ elution or desorption and more effective ways to immobilize, detoxify or remove sediment contaminants. Development of in-situ bioremediation techniques that use a mixture of bacteria, nutrients and sediment conditions to accelerate contaminant detoxification rates.
- Development of cost effective and minimally invasive monitoring technology to measure concentrations of contaminants in sediment hot spots, the relationship between sediment contaminants, particularly arsenic, and uptake of contaminants into the ecological and human foodchain, and the bio-availability of contaminants in sediments.
- Improved sediment capping materials such as reactive core mats where materials like coke-filled carpets are laid on the river bottom to detoxify or bind contaminants to prevent escape from the sediments into the water. Development of new techniques that work in the absence of oxygen deep within sediments and also utilize oxygen to detoxify upper reaches of sediments.

## B. PACIFIC NORTHWEST ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (EPA REGION 10).

EPA Region 10 is responsible for environmental protection in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Region 10 research topics focus on important problems in these states. Region 10 includes thousands of mine waste sites in the Coeur d'Alene Basin as well as mines in other parts of the Region. The health of the Columbia River is of great importance to Region 10, as is Puget Sound and Alaskan waters. Particulate matter in smoke from agricultural burning and forestry fires is an air pollution priority along with other sources including diesel emissions. Hazardous waste is a problem in Region 10, including wastes near the Bunker Hill smelter, creosote pilings that need to be removed and large areas with low level contamination of soils and sediments. Region 10 also serves 271 Tribal governments, about half of the total Tribes and Alaska Native Villages in the US.

Small businesses anywhere in the nation may submit a proposal for any Region 10 topic and the proposal may address the environmental problem whether the geographic focus is Region 10 or

any other geographic area in the US. There are four EPA Region 10 topics in this solicitation: (B1) Management of wastes from hard-rock and coal mining; (B2) Monitoring and control of air pollution; (B3) Environmental protection of Tribal Reservations and Alaska Native Villages; and (B4) Reducing low level area-wide soil contamination; and (B5) Alaska oil and gas management tools.

## **B1. MANAGEMENT OF WASTES FROM HARD-ROCK AND COAL MINING**

Hard-rock and coal mining have created a multitude of environmental problems. Subsurface drainage and surface runoff from mine sites have negatively impacted water quality in streams. Many abandoned mining sites are being cleaned up as “Superfund” sites. Economical mine management technologies are needed for waste rock disposal sites, tailings impoundments, walls of open pits, abandoned mine workings and spent-ore leach pads.

Acid mine drainage (AMD) is also an important problem, especially from abandoned mines. EPA is interested in new and novel technologies that are low-cost, effective and long lasting. AMD is caused by the oxidation of sulfide minerals in mine tailings and waste rock. A recent study of streams draining Washington State’s mining districts showed that 9 of 13 streams were impacted by AMD. Chemical and biological processes cause AMD which is characterized by acidic water containing heavy metals that were once locked up in the rock matrix. Examples of EPA needs include, but are not limited to:

- Technologies that prevent or mitigate the formation of AMD in situ. AMD is formed by chemical oxidation of pyrite which is catalyzed biologically. Technologies that can prevent this oxidation from occurring and which might have practical means of application within a mining environment (both operating and inactive mines and both surface and underground mines) are within the scope of interest of this solicitation.
- Passive treatment systems for AMD that clean the contaminated waste without operators or continual needs for materials or energy. Technology examples include natural and constructed wetlands, permeable reactive barriers and in situ augmentation of sulfate reducing bacteria.
- Prevention and control technologies that are used to prevent and/or control the generation of leachate that contains metals and other chemicals. Examples include stabilization and solidification, blending and layering and alternative covers.
- Low cost abiotic and biologically mediated treatment processes for AMD such as sedimentation, oxidation/reduction, plant uptake (phytoremediation), and metals

precipitation as hydroxides and sulfides. Emphasis is on treatment processes which treat metal mixtures versus single metal waste streams because most environmental impacts result from mining activities involve contamination resulting from several metals.

- Cost effective resource recovery technologies for hard rock and/or coal mining AMD discharges and sludges. Examples include the recovery of iron oxide, aluminum, manganese and high value trace elements such as gold and yttrium. The current value of iron oxide is approximately \$1.00/lb and the value in AMD sludges is in the millions of dollars.
- Technologies relating to the beneficial reuse of AMD discharges. Examples include reusing AMD discharges for cooling water applications in co-located steel manufacturing and power generating facilities.

Monitoring technologies are also needed for mining waste sites. The presence of very large mining sites, particularly in the western states and Alaska, presents a significant health and environmental threat with no cost-effective solution. Superfund mining sites pose a unique and significant challenge because they often cover a large geographic area and include a very large volume of contaminated media resulting from mining operations. The ability to characterize and monitor releases from these sites is vital to understanding the risks and developing appropriate remedial approaches.

- EPA needs low-cost, low maintenance monitors and advanced remote-sensing based tools (i.e., air and space borne) for characterizing the extent of contamination at very large mining waste sites, monitoring releases, assessing risks, and planning and implementing remediation measures. These tools should provide information on the location and areal extent of mining activities and related waste piles; on the nature and extent of releases from active and inactive mines; and on contaminants, particularly metals and arsenic, and their concentrations, bioavailability and bioaccessibility.

## **B2. MONITORING AND CONTROL OF AIR POLLUTION**

A priority problem in EPA Region 10 is fine particulate air pollution (less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter) associated with smoke from agricultural and forest burning practices. Other important air pollution priorities include reducing particulate matter from diesel engine exhaust (and biodiesel production) and reducing emissions from restaurants and other small air pollution sources with large numbers of establishments.

### **PM FROM AGRICULTURAL SOURCES**

Cost-effective technologies are needed to prevent or reduce exposure to fine particulates from heavy smoke from agricultural and forest burning. Northern Idaho, Eastern Washington and Oregon's Willamette Valley burn large areas and experience high rates of complaints. Homes and buildings in Region 10 experience unusually heavy loadings of particulate matter (PM) especially from burning agricultural fields and forests. Prescribed burning is a longstanding efficient and economical land management tool that reduces the threat of disease or catastrophic wildfires. Smoke management programs reduce impacts of particulates through air quality and meteorological predictions and prioritization schemes that select areas for burning. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Inexpensive and effective indoor filtration and air purification systems capable of removing extremely high concentrations of fine particulates from homes and businesses.
- Improved high concentration particulate air filters for residential and commercial heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems.

## DIESEL EMISSIONS AND BIODIESEL

New engine diesel pollution is addressed in the EPA Clean Diesel Truck/Bus and Low Sulfur Diesel Rule and Nonroad Diesel Rule. However, slow turnover in the diesel fleet will extend full implementation. EPA is interested in retrofit technologies that reduce particulate matter, volatile organic pollutants and oxides of nitrogen from diesel sources such as trucks, buses, railroads, marine vessels, construction and agricultural equipment. EPA is also interested in new biodiesel production technologies and truck and rail idle reduction technologies. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Diesel engine retrofits including after-treatment technologies and/or engine improvements that can be used on existing diesel engines to reduce air emissions. Inexpensive retrofits and easy to install devices that will perform well over an extended period of time are of particular interest.
- Technologies that reduce extended engine idling of diesel trucks and locomotives. Ideally, systems should reduce air pollution, decrease fuel consumption and overcome use constraints such as weight, maintenance and cost.
- New, more efficient and cost effective methods for production of biodiesel fuels are also a priority. Sound and economical technologies for utilizing meat rendering, greases and food wastes for biodiesel production are of particular interest.

## SMALL AIR POLLUTION SOURCES

Technologies are needed for small air pollution sources including small industrial boilers and restaurants. Small industrial boilers are an important class of air pollution sources that emit particulate matter and other air pollutants. Large numbers of small sources collectively become a significant contributor to air pollution. Restaurants and establishments that use fryers, broilers, grills and other cookers to prepare food products are a problem source of particulates and other air pollutants. EPA needs include:

- Retrofit and inexpensive air pollution control devices for small oil and coal-fired industrial boilers. These small sources (less than 100 million BTU boilers) are collectively large contributors to PM and other air pollution.
- Effective and inexpensive air pollution control devices for restaurants and establishments that use fryers, broilers, grills and other cookers to prepare food products. Simple retrofit technologies are needed to remove particulates and other air pollutants.

## AIR POLLUTION MONITORING

Acrolein is an ubiquitous aldehyde that is created during combustion processes. It has been identified in the Clean Air Act as a Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP). The current analytical methods for source (EPA Method 18 and CARB 430) and ambient monitoring (TO-11a) rely on 2,4 di-nitro-phenylhydrazine reaction to capture and retain aldehydes and ketones. With these methods, recoveries of acrolein are poor. Research has been performed in enhancing the existing methods and also using Dansyl Hydrazine (DNSH). However, these enhanced and new methods have not increased the recovery of acrolein.

- Acrolein is known to absorb strongly in the infrared range and can be identified by Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) technology. The agency is searching for a method that will allow quantification in the parts per billion (ppb) range for source monitoring and part per trillion (ppt) range of acrolein for ambient conditions.

Mercury is considered one of the most important HAPs, as it is listed in the Clean Air Act. It also is important for its ability to be a Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxic (PBT). It is well known that mercury that is emitted into the air can accumulate in waterways and soils. For this reason, it is important for the agency to facilitate the advance of technologies for mercury monitoring.

- Mercury can absorb strongly in the Ultraviolet radiation spectrum and Differential Optical Absorption Spectrophotometers (DOAS) have been able to detect mercury. The Agency needs the ability to detect mercury in its many phases. Mercury in the atmosphere can exist as a gas, semi-volatile gas and as a particle. New instruments are needed that can detect mercury in its different phases and quantify it in the parts per billion (ppb) or parts per trillion (ppt) range.

### **B3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF TRIBAL RESERVATIONS AND ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES**

EPA Region 10 serves 271 Indian Tribes which includes Alaska Native Villages. Tribes have unique environmental problems associated with solid and hazardous waste disposal, air pollution, drinking water, sanitation and contamination of surface waters. These problems are even more complicated in Alaska where the environmental ecosystems vary from Arctic to sub-arctic to coastal rain forest. EPA provides resources, funds and technical assistance to develop Tribal environmental program capacity.

Tribal environmental needs require specialized technology that is low-cost, efficient and effective under demanding environmental conditions. Many Indian-owned small businesses understand these special Tribal and Native Village needs and develop environmental technologies that address these unique problems. Other small businesses are eligible to submit technology proposals under this topic and proposals should demonstrate that their new technology addresses an important Tribal environmental problem and need. The difficulty in transporting materials to remote sites, the lack of economies of scale for small system projects, weather conditions during operation, maintenance limitations, availability of fuels and high energy costs and the limited annual construction period in some regions are important needs for these technologies. Technology needs under this topic include, but are not limited to:

- New, cost effective technologies associated with Tribal drinking water needs including small scale drinking water treatment, corrosion control and disinfection systems, modified water storage systems that prevent microbial contamination, and new cleanup and rehabilitation technologies for transmission and distribution lines. Technologies that provide safe drinking water to households or small Tribal areas without running water or with hauled water from non-public systems are a priority.
- New non-leachable/inert pipe materials, relining techniques and innovative materials for water distribution systems that improve performance and life-cycle cost.
- Inexpensive, minimally invasive techniques for repair of home sewer laterals—the

connections between a household plumbing system and the sewer main.

- Low cost safe septic tanks and innovative sanitation systems for households or small Tribal areas. Systems for Arctic and sub-arctic areas are a priority.
- Technologies that control indoor air pollution problems of Indian Tribes including pollution from fuels, cleaning materials, fugitive dust and agricultural/forestry burning. Technologies that reduce potential lead poisoning are a priority.
- Many Tribal communities rely on stationary source diesel engines for electrical power. Tribes cannot afford expensive air pollution control equipment and they cannot switch to cleaner fuels. Cost-effective retrofit air pollution control technologies are needed for these diesel engines to reduce emissions of particulates and other air pollutants.
- Alternative solid waste management technologies that replace open-dump burning. Low cost and efficient combustion systems are a priority. Technologies that provide safe disposal of household and village hazardous wastes, abandoned equipment containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) or hazardous waste, medical wastes and problem wastes such as fluorescent light tubes, batteries and paint wastes.

#### **B4. REDUCING LOW LEVEL AREA-WIDE SOIL CONTAMINATION**

New technologies are needed to reduce low and moderate level arsenic and lead soil contamination that is dispersed over a large geographic area, generally covering several hundred acres to many miles. Most area-wide arsenic and lead soil contamination is from past use of lead-arsenate-based pesticides and emissions from metal smelters. Clean-up levels of concern are 20 mg/kg for total arsenic and 250 mg/kg lead in soil. These are lower than concentrations associated with Superfund sites, but higher than baseline levels. Arsenic occurs naturally in Washington State soils at approximately 5-9 mg/kg and lead occurs at 11-24 mg/kg. These large areas continue to release lead, arsenic and other problem pollutants into the Columbia River Basin, Puget Sound and many other waters of the US.

It is estimated that over 650,000 acres in Washington State are affected by area-wide arsenic and lead soil contamination. Chelan, Spokane, Yakima and Okanogan Counties in Washington have elevated arsenic and lead levels from lead arsenate pesticides applied to apple and pear trees from 1905 until 1947. Remediation technologies are needed to reduce stormwater and other discharges into rivers and groundwater. Another example is the 21 square-mile area around Northern Idaho's Bunker Hill Smelter where EPA has conducted cleanup operations. Beyond the area of focus is the Coeur d'Alene River Basin including Coeur d'Alene River, Coeur d'Alene

Lake and the Spokane River where atmospheric deposition of arsenic and lead have contaminated large tracks of land. Smelters have also affected King, Pierce, Snohomish and Stevens counties due to metal smelters in Tacoma, Everett, Northport and Harbon Island near Seattle. Concerns include exposure of children who contact lead and arsenic contaminated soil, dissolved metals in fisheries and contaminated sediments that harm waterfowl who feed in wetlands and lateral lakes. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Innovative in-situ treatment methods that degrade, remove or immobilize low level area-wide arsenic and lead contamination of soils. Of special interest are applications of specialized chemical or biological agents, emulsions, etc. where degradation, fate and transport of contaminants and chemicals are safe.
- Phytoremediation techniques that degrade or remove contaminants in processes where fate and transport of chemicals and degradation products are safe.
- Methods that determine bioaccessibility of arsenic and collaborate with bioavailability.

#### **B5. ALASKA OIL AND GAS MANAGEMENT TOOLS**

Alaska is home to a wide array of indigenous peoples, ecosystems and resources. It is also a significant source of our nation's energy supply. Recent years have seen a steady rise in projects and activities related to oil and gas exploration, extraction and transportation in Alaska. New permits have been issued for the Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea and Cook Inlet and work is proceeding on the proposed Alpine Satellite oil and gas project on the North Slope. When these projects are coupled with Alaska's often extreme environmental conditions, extensive wilderness areas, and the dependence on subsistence food supplies, providing timely, comprehensive environmental protection can be challenging. Alaska oil and gas needs include, but are not limited to:

- Inexpensive and reliable oil spill detection methods, including remote sensing technologies.
- Methods of treating dirt service roads to reduce or eliminate dust from heavy vehicle traffic to minimize adverse impacts to surrounding tundra areas.
- Methods for moving people around the tundra to inspect pipelines via off-road vehicles without damage to the tundra.

## C. MINIMIZATION, MONITORING AND REMEDIATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE FOR EPA OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (OSWER).

EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) is responsible for protecting public health and the environment from risks of toxic waste and chemical accidents. OSWER assists programs for safely managing wastes, preventing chemical and oil accidents and cleaning up contaminated sites. OSWER helps minimize, reduce and recycle toxic chemicals including persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) chemicals. OSWER also assists with municipal and industrial solid waste recycling and with better waste management, restoration of contaminated sites and emergency response.

There are five OSWER topics in this solicitation: (C1) Waste Minimization, (C2) Hazardous Waste Management, (C3) Contaminated Site Monitoring; (C4) Solid Waste Recycling and (C5) Waste gasification.

### C1. WASTE MINIMIZATION

EPA is particularly concerned about wastes that contain any of one or more of 30 priority chemicals that can be found in waste materials. These chemicals have been targeted as priorities by EPA due to their properties of persistence, bioaccumulation potential, and toxicity or because they have frequently required the remediation of land and/or groundwater damage. They are currently being generated in industrial waste and are found in soil, sediment, ground water, surface water, air, and/or biota as a result of past and present releases. These pollutants can be found in municipal wastes as well. Even when released in very small amounts, they accumulate and can cause environmental problems. Many of these chemicals (or elements such as metals) are difficult to clean up once they get into the environment, resulting in costly remediation efforts. EPA is interested in new technologies and products that reduce or eliminate any (one or more) of the 30 priority chemicals in waste materials. The specific chemicals are listed on the EPA website:

[www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/minimize/chemlist.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/minimize/chemlist.htm).

Of special interest is mercury waste minimization. Mercury has long been known to have toxic effects on the nervous systems of humans and wildlife. EPA is interested in technologies that remove mercury from products. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Marketable mercury-free alternatives to mercury containing flame sensors used in gas ovens and other gas appliances with no electric source.

- Non-mercury alternatives to gastrointestinal tubes used by doctors. Gastrointestinal tubes typically have expiration dates, after which their use must be discontinued. Technologies that recycle these mercury-containing tubes are also needed.
- Non-mercury alternatives to industrial thermostats. Technologies and methods are needed to assure the recycling of these mercury-containing industrial thermostats until substitutes are available.
- Cost competitive non-mercury alternatives for switches and relays. Technologies to recycle these switches and relays are needed until substitutes are available.
- Cost competitive non-mercury alternatives for fluorescent lamps mercury vapor lamps, metal halide lamps, high-pressure sodium lamps, and neon lamps.

## **C2. HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Over 40 million tons of hazardous waste are produced in the United States each year by industrial facilities such as chemical manufacturers, petroleum refineries and electroplaters, as well as by businesses such as dry cleaners and auto repair shops. Innovative approaches are needed for detoxification and remediation of organically contaminated soil and groundwater. PBT chemicals are of particular interest. More information on the EPA strategy for PBT Chemicals is available at the following website: [www.epa.gov/pbt](http://www.epa.gov/pbt).

Contaminants have permeated and adsorbed onto soils, diffused to interstitial saturated zones, dissolved into ground waters and migrated to subsurface aquifers. In many instances, contaminants have exhibited physical and chemical properties that make them difficult to remove from the environment. Contaminants may exist in subsurface deposits as immobile gums or sludges difficult to access. They may be resistant to normal subsurface chemical and biological degradation processes. They may strongly adsorb on soil structures and be only slightly soluble in aqueous concentrations. Innovative and cost effective technologies are needed in areas including, but not limited to:

- Innovative ex-situ and in-situ treatment technologies for mercury-contaminated soil. Mercury exists as organo-mercury complexes, phenyl mercury, methyl mercury and mixed mercury wastes. Cost effective, innovative technologies are needed to treat, remove, or immobilize these forms of mercury.
- Improved treatment of solid and/or liquid wastes contaminated with PBTs or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Detoxification chemical methods, physical methods for

subsurface mixing to enhance mobilization and mass transfer and biotreatment methods in the saturated and unsaturated zone are of particular interest.

- Approaches for in-situ treatment of dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPL) from the subsurface. Special needs include cost effective in-situ destruction technologies.
- Derelict creosote pilings need to be removed from tidelands as well as many other coastal areas throughout Puget Sound and in other regions. Removal of creosote pilings has the potential to resuspend contaminated material around the piling and create a new pathway for sediment or contaminant transport into the water column. The sediment/water slurry typically contains dissolved or particulate contaminants associated with the piling, including creosote or PAHs. Technologies are needed to remove the piling intact without causing resuspension or other water pollution problems.

### **C3. CONTAMINATED SITE MONITORING**

EPA's hazardous waste management programs are seeking better sampling, analysis, and monitoring technologies to advance hazardous waste site cleanup and regulated waste process activities. This area includes technologies to address industrial and waste processes, accurate and cost effective identification and characterization of contaminants at waste sites, monitoring the performance of site cleanup activities and remedies both during construction and also during long-term operations, and techniques to support the closeout of cleanup activities and to support land revitalization beyond site cleanup phases. More information on these needs is available at <http://clu-in.org/programs/21m2/needs.cfm> Areas with significant technology needs and gaps include:

- Continuous Emissions Monitors (CEMs) for use with thermal hazardous waste treatment systems. EPA is seeking technologies or techniques which allow real-time/near real-time ability to measure stack emissions for toxic organic and heavy metal air emissions.
- Remote sensing for fence-line monitoring for fugitive emissions/enforcement activities. EPA is seeking real-time/near real-time monitoring of toxic organic pollutants downwind at the facility fence line.
- Sampling and analytical technologies for potentially contaminated sediment. Advances have occurred in the design and operation of flux meters, such as the ultrasonic seepage meter; however, they are of limited use in the absence of any independent verification of their performance. EPA is seeking better monitoring and measurement methods to characterize (1) the transition zone at the sediment/surface water interface, (2) the spatial distribution of the

flux of contaminants from sediments to surface water, (3) the amount of sediment mixing due to bioturbation, and (4) the dynamic changes in the chemistry and movement of sediment pore water, particularly in complex ecosystems such as tidal estuaries.

- EPA is interested in better technologies for detection of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in transformers, capacitors and other electrical equipment. Current testing to determine if the device contains PCBs can require de-energizing the transformer and opening the device with possible worker exposure, environmental release and/or contamination of the oil. New technologies should be field deployable and detect PCB concentrations of 40 ppm and above. Technologies should also be capable of testing while the electric unit remains in operation and be safe, cost-effective, easy to use and reproducible.
- New monitoring methods for total cyanides, cyanide speciation. EPA is seeking more accurate, reliable, and enforceable technologies, techniques, and tests to monitor for total cyanides and to speciate cyanides. EPA is particularly interested in techniques based on alkaline digestion and ion chromatography.
- Cost-effective screening technologies for dioxin contamination. Traditional laboratory analysis of dioxin in sediment, soil, and air is expensive. EPA is seeking less expensive test kits and other alternative screening tests.
- Analytical techniques for pesticides and their degradation products. EPA is seeking field analytical techniques that can accurately measure several toxic and persistent endocrine-disrupting pesticides and their degradation products, including the previously used pesticides, Chlordane, Aldrin, and Endrin and their long-lived toxic degradation products, Dieldrin, Heptachlor, and Heptachlor-Epoxyde.
- Field-based monitoring and measurement technologies for Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) in soil and groundwater. A robust field technology needs to be developed that will provide sufficiently low detection limits (10-20 µg/L) with minimal sample preparation requirements and interferences.
- Monitoring vapor intrusion into buildings. Currently, indoor spaces must be entered to measure sub-slab vapor and/or indoor air concentrations. Less intrusive methods are needed to cost-effectively measure vapor concentrations and/or flux outside of buildings to estimate the potential for VOC vapor intrusion into buildings.
- Sensor technologies for long-term monitoring of groundwater. Chemical specific (e.g., perchlorethene or trichloroethene) in-situ sensors are needed that can be queried remotely

multiple times without biofouling or need for maintenance re-calibration. Sensors should meet required pollutant detection levels and be small enough, yet robust and at a reasonable cost to deploy with flux meters and piezometers to characterize change over small vertical and horizontal scales.

- In-situ sensors for monitoring groundwater contamination, contaminant plume or treatment system performance. EPA is seeking lower cost in-situ sensor technologies or techniques with improved capacity to monitor the presence and concentration of contaminants, particularly chlorinated solvents, in the saturated zone. Long-life, remote-telemetry compatible sensors for BTEX or MTBE in soils and ground water are also needed for underground storage tank (UST) cleanup programs.
- Cost-effective leak detection technologies are needed for small municipal landfills. In addition, sensors are needed to monitor the integrity and effectiveness of slurry walls and liners and passive treatment (e.g., permeable reactive barrier systems).
- Monitors are needed to estimate the long-term effectiveness of natural attenuation, bioremediation and other in-situ systems. Cost-effective technologies are needed that can determine whether the disappearance of contaminants is due to biodegradation, volatilization, or other factors.
- Technologies are needed for locating and monitoring the presence and persistence of non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPLs), particularly dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs). EPA is seeking non-invasive or minimally invasive technologies that are capable of locating small volumes of DNAPL, characterizing the contamination, assisting with the visualization of the DNAPL relative to features in the subsurface hydrogeology, and supporting the modeling and optimization of treatment systems.
- Non-invasive field monitoring technologies are needed for mercury and heavy metals in soils. Electromagnetic radiography that eliminates core sampling is of special interest.
- Internal inspection methods are needed for internally-lined underground storage tanks (USTs) that replace human entry into the UST to measure thickness, hardness, conduct a holiday (spark) test, and perform ultrasonic measurements on the steel tank shell. EPA also needs better leak detection methods for underground storage tanks and pipes.

#### **C4. SOLID WASTE RECYCLING**

This topic includes management, treatment and recycling of municipal and industrial solid waste.

Areas of interest include construction and demolition debris and several needs associated with the EPA Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC). Solid waste recycling is a complex and growing industry ripe for innovation both in the collection of recyclable materials and in the processing of those materials into usable goods. Solid waste recycling infrastructure includes more than 12,000 drop-off sites and some 9,000 curbside programs that collect recyclable materials. An estimated 136 million tons of building-related construction and demolition debris are generated annually. The RCC is a major national effort to find flexible, yet more protective ways to conserve our valuable resources through waste reduction and energy recovery. For more information on the RCC, see [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/consERVE/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/consERVE/index.htm). Areas of interest for innovation include, but are not limited to:

- Technologies and processes for improved recovery of construction and demolition debris.
- Re-designing products and building materials to enhance their recyclability (e.g., recycling-friendly adhesives and better bottle coatings).
- Separation, recovery and recycling of components from computers, printers, monitors and consumer electronics.
- Multiple recovery and recycling of different plastic materials in automobile salvage operations.

## **C5. WASTE GASIFICATION**

Waste minimization includes clean energy conversion. EPA is interested in this area because energy efficiency is an increasingly important national priority and “waste-to-energy” projects combine the need for increasing national energy efficiency with solving of part of the nation’s waste management problem. Any material containing carbon can be gasified and many wastes contain carbon and are therefore potential feedstocks to gasification systems.

Gasification systems are defined for the purpose of this solicitation as an enclosed thermal device and associated gas cleaning system that does not meet the definition of an incinerator or industrial furnace. These systems: 1) limit oxygen concentrations in the enclosed thermal device to prevent the full oxidization of thermally disassociated gaseous compounds, 2) utilize a gas cleanup system 3) slag inorganic feed materials at temperatures above 2000 F, 4) produce a synthesis gas, and 5) are equipped with monitoring devices that ensure the quality of the synthesis gas produced. (See 67 FR 13684, March 25, 2002 for more details). EPA also notes that there may be other devices or systems that in fact produce a synthesis gas product that may not meet all of the points in the proposed definition above. This does not eliminate such systems from being of interest to EPA. Any technology that can gasify carbon containing waste materials is of interest. Areas of specific interest include, but are not limited to:

- Gasification technologies and systems designed or modified to gasify municipal and industrial waste at a cost that will be competitive in today’s energy markets.

- Cost effective gasification technologies and systems designed or modified to gasify animal and farm wastes, including wastes from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).
- Technology improvements in gasification system design, gas cleanup system design and specialized feeder designs that improve efficiency and cost effectiveness.
- For gasification systems using combined or separable municipal or industrial waste streams, technology improvements that reduce the quantity or improve quality of solid residues, or significantly improve overall pollutant emissions from gasification systems.
- Gasification technologies and systems that can be incorporated into the overall manufacturing operation of a specific industrial sector or application. Key to this identification would be an assessment of solid and hazardous generation rates and composition coupled with existing energy needs. Specific attention would be directed towards developing technology for an individual facility (or entire industry) with a low cost solution to their overall needs in the areas of waste management and energy production.

#### D. CRITICAL EPA RESEARCH TOPICS

Other EPA programs also have critical technology needs and these priorities form this set of topics. These priorities have been developed based on needs identified by EPA programs including the EPA Office of Water, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances, EPA Office of Homeland Security, EPA Regions and states and other priorities such as Executive Order 13329 Encouraging Innovation in Manufacturing. Many of the needs in these topics are part of the new Environmental Technology Opportunities Portal (ETOP), a Congressional mandate for a one-stop shop to coordinate and foster development of new, cost-effective environmental technologies. For more information on this program or to join the network of technology developers and technology users, visit the ETOP Website at: [www.epa.gov/etop](http://www.epa.gov/etop)

There are nine topics in this part of the solicitation: (D1) Innovation in Manufacturing; (D2) Nanomaterials; (D3) Pollution Prevention; (D4) Water and Wastewater Management; (D5) Green Buildings; (D6) Safe Buildings; (D7) Drinking Water and Wastewater Security; (D8) Computational Toxicology; and (D9) Lead Paint Detection and Removal.

#### **D1. INNOVATION IN MANUFACTURING**

Executive Order 13329 ensures that EPA properly and effectively assist the private sector in its manufacturing innovation so as to sustain a strong manufacturing sector in the US economy by advancing innovation. Manufacturing-related R&D encompasses improvements in existing methods or processes, or wholly new processes, machines or systems. Manufacturing innovation is fostered by R&D of technologies that are aimed at increasing the competitive capability of manufacturing concerns. Four main areas include: (1) Unit process level technologies that create

or improve manufacturing processes; (2) Machine level technologies that create or improve manufacturing equipment; (3) Systems level technologies for innovation in the manufacturing enterprise; and (4) Environment or societal level technologies that improve workforce abilities and manufacturing competitiveness. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Manufacturing process changes that utilize green technology to improve process efficiency and reduce pollution. These technologies (e.g., non-traditional material reactors, multiphase extraction, separation or fluid transfer, novel spraying systems, etc.) improve production efficiency and performance while eliminating or minimizing harmful emissions or waste materials.
- New filtration membranes for organic solvent recovery and similar applications.
- New or improved catalyst applications.
- Development of technology for solvent free production of chemical products.

Industrial designers drive the choices of materials, finishes, colors, functions and assemblage for a wide range of products from toothbrushes to toys to tractors. This in turn drives demand for chemicals that end up in the waste stream. Most of the environmental impact that a product creates during its life cycle is determined in the design stage when industrial designers, working in conjunction with manufacturers and retailers, determine a product's materials, production processes, use, recycling, and disposal. There are about 15,000 US industrial designers. Most work in small firms to design products marketed by large businesses. Areas of research include, but are not limited to:

- Technologies that alter the composition of existing end-use products allowing fundamental changes in the production process or in the use of raw materials such that the overall life-cycle environmental impact is reduced;
- Development of a "color-pallet" of environmentally preferable inks and dyes (including metallic inks and dyes) for both water-soluble and oil-soluble applications.
- New radon-resistant construction techniques and building materials and innovative methods for reducing existing radon concentrations in homes.

## **D2. NANOMATERIALS**

Research is needed to apply the principles of nanotechnology to the areas of environmental monitoring and pollution control. Nanotechnology is defined as the creation of functional materials, devices and systems through control of matter at the scale of 1 to 100 nanometers, and the exploitation of novel properties and phenomena at the same scale. EPA is particularly interested in nanotechnologies that reduce the use and release of toxic pollutants, especially persistent, bioaccumulative toxics (PBTs), hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and volatile organic

compounds (VOCs). Nanotechnology is emerging as a technology platform with potential for great environmental breakthroughs and significant commercial applications. This nanomaterials topic area is closely related to other topics in the solicitation. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- New nanoporous filters for removal of gaseous pollutants and particulates from contaminated air streams.
- Nanoparticulate catalysts for utilization in VOC treatment devices and related applications.
- Metal free nano-laminated coatings and nanomaterials with smart characteristics including reactive coatings that destroy or immobilize toxic compounds. High surface area nanomaterials for new coatings and environmental applications.
- Development of technology for solvent free production of nanometer size high performance ceramic powders and similar materials.
- Development of microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) and nanotechnology based devices for use in environmental analytical and monitoring instrument devices including sensors and nano-components.
- Development of a personal sampling device for the detection and quantification of airborne nanoparticle exposures. The device should be rugged, accessible and easy to use and is intended for workplace and laboratory settings.
- Nanomaterial sensors for rapid and precise process control and environmental monitoring. EPA is particularly interested in remote, in-situ, real-time and continuous measurement of species at trace (ppt) concentrations. Sensors that utilize lab-on-a-chip technology are also of interest.

### **D3. POLLUTION PREVENTION**

The goal of Pollution Prevention is to reduce waste at the source, before it is generated. Pollution Prevention is intended to conserve and protect water supplies, reduce harmful emissions and reduce waste. Pollution Prevention is defined as “...the use of materials, processes or practices that reduce the use of hazardous materials, energy, water or other resources and practices that protect natural resources through conservation or more efficient use”.

#### **AUTOMOBILE AND OTHER GREEN SUPPLIER NETWORKS**

Under the Automobile Suppliers Partnership for the Environment, EPA is working with automobile suppliers and sub-tier suppliers to develop new technologies that will drive environmental improvements while meeting pricing demands. The Automobile Partnership is one partnership under an umbrella network called the Green Suppliers Network (GSN). Also

under GSN several similar partnerships are forming. These include partnerships with aerospace, office furniture manufacturing, healthcare products, pharmaceuticals and other industries. EPA is interested in working with suppliers and sub-tier suppliers to develop new technologies that simultaneously enhance environmental performance and cost-competitiveness. Such technologies include, but are not limited to:

- Prevention or reuse of paint sludges from captured overspray in automobile painting and use of low VOC products for purging paint lines and painting guns;
- Alternate filter technologies, reusable filters or new technologies for collection of spray in dry paint booths;
- Machining metals without use of toxic cutting fluids;
- Products that meet design specifications without requiring the use of chemicals such as mercury, cadmium, lead, hexavalent chromium and brominated flame retardants.

#### HOSPITALS FOR A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

EPA is interested in working with healthcare suppliers to develop new technologies that simultaneously result in environmental improvement and meet healthcare standards. Technology needs include, but are not limited to:

- Medical devices or products that will reduce patients' exposure to toxic chemicals while receiving healthcare services;
- Cleaning and disinfection agents that will reduce or eliminate the exposure of janitorial personnel to toxic chemicals;
- Cost-competitive, low-temperature sterilization processes for medical devices in a hospital setting that could replace the use of ethylene oxide (EtO).

#### FRAGRANCES

Many fragrances and colorants have undesirable health/environmental characteristics. Some of the key ingredients of concern in fragrances may be environmentally toxic/persistent (e.g., ketones), potentially sensitizing (e.g., d-limonene, other terpenes), neurotoxic (e.g., dibutyl phthalate), or carcinogenic (e.g., citral; methyleugenol). The potential for contact allergy to fragrances in the general population is estimated at 1 percent and there is evidence that a number of fragrance ingredients may induce occupational asthma. Areas of research include, but are not limited to:

- Development of environmentally preferable fragrances or chemical substitutes for key ingredients in fragrances.

#### **D4. WATER AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

The US is faced with major challenges in the restoration and protection of the quality of its surface waters which serve irreplaceable functions in supporting human health and viable ecosystems. Technology is needed to better identify and monitor sources of pollution and protect water quality. Needs under this topic include, but are not limited to:

- Techniques for more rapid and cost-effective detection of sources of hazardous algal blooms, as well as improved methods for measuring cyanobacteria species and toxins.
- Inexpensive and rapid or real-time detection methods for viruses and shellfish toxins such as paralytical shellfish poison (PSP) and domoic acid.
- Cost-effective, remotely operated water quality sampling devices (e.g., data sondes) for use in monitoring water quality which may include addressing locations which are difficult to access and require self sustaining power supplies and communication devices.
- Sensors for nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus that function effectively over widely ranging salinity and turbidity levels typical of estuaries, and require minimal maintenance and service in the field.
- Automated in-situ sediments monitor that provides accurate suspended sediment concentrations, particle size and fluxes in rivers, estuaries and other water bodies. EPA and other Federal agencies are interested in multi-frequency acoustic or other technology that can operate effectively under highly variable sediment concentrations. For more information, visit <http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/sos>.
- Adaptation of existing or new remote sensing technologies that can detect and quantify water quality parameters (pollutants, impairments, indicators of recovery) to airborne platforms (manned or unmanned) capable of rapid deployment and information collection on site-specific or larger scales.
- Field analytical methods to detect perchlorate in water samples. Perchlorate has been detected in groundwater and soil across the country. While there is currently no limit for perchlorate, EPA has set a preliminary remediation goal of 3.6 µg/L. There is a need to develop field analytical methods that can achieve this quantitation level and overcome any interferences.

#### **WATER CONSERVATION AND REUSE**

Growing urbanization and development are leading to conflicts in meeting the water demands for domestic, industrial, commercial, and agricultural purposes. Difficulty in developing additional fresh water supplies is leading to more interest in stretching limited existing fresh water supplies

through effective conservation measures and the development of alternative sources such as the reuse of reclaimed wastewater effluents for non-potable uses. Numerous programs have been developed to encourage energy and water conservation. Guidelines have also been established to help control a wide range of wastewater reclamation and reuse practices, including use as a water supply for the irrigation of urban areas and agricultural crops, industrial processing and cooling water, commercial uses, recreational and aesthetic impoundments, creation and enhancement of wetlands, stream augmentation, and groundwater recharge. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- New, cost effective technologies that improve water use efficiency of toilets, water fixtures, appliances, irrigation systems, etc.
- New, cost effective technologies that can help improve the performance and energy efficiency of wastewater treatment practices to produce treated effluents of a quality that allows for reuse as an alternative water supply.
- Water conservation systems and technologies that promote industrial water reuse.

#### **D5. GREEN BUILDINGS**

Green building is the practice of: (1) increasing the efficiency with which buildings and their sites use energy, water, and materials; and (2) reducing building impacts on human health and the environment through better siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and removal—the complete building life cycle. The many elements of green buildings include energy, water, materials, waste and the indoor environment. Identifying ways to reduce negative multi-media impacts of buildings and construction on human health and the environment is one of the priorities of EPA. Building and construction activities worldwide consume three billion tons of raw materials each year or 40 percent of total global material use. Buildings use one-third of all energy, two-thirds of all electricity and their construction consumes one-fourth of all harvested wood. Health and productivity losses associated with indoor air pollution are estimated to cost tens of billions of dollars annually. Technologies that only involve energy efficiency with no other direct environmental benefit (such as solar energy technologies) are addressed by other agencies and will not be considered. Examples of Green Building research needs include, but are not limited to:

- New green building materials, technologies or processes that cause fewer multimedia environmental problems and have reduced life cycle costs (e.g., recycled content, low toxicity, energy efficiency, biodegradability, and/or durability).
- Methodologies and processes to evaluate costs of constructing green buildings, including LEED-rated buildings. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a voluntary green building rating system. (See [www.usgbc.org/leed](http://www.usgbc.org/leed).)
- Real-time measurement of energy and water consumption in buildings.

- Technologies and/or methodologies to improve measurement of indoor environmental quality as well as to assess health and productivity effects.
- Environmentally preferable technologies that reduce the consumption of water and energy in buildings.
- Measuring and improving performance of green building technologies with multiple benefits, including green roofs, underfloor air distribution systems, and daylighting.
- Methodologies to evaluate environmental impacts of building location and siting decisions.

#### **D6. SAFE BUILDINGS**

There are significant efforts throughout the government to develop and implement systems that detect acts of terrorism, contain and respond to the problem and protect the American people and the environment. One of EPA's goals following the events of September 11, 2001 is to evaluate, characterize and develop tools that can be used to detect, contain, decontaminate and manage hazardous chemical and biological materials purposefully introduced into buildings. Research is needed to develop improved technologies for preventing, detecting, warning of, containing and decontaminating hazardous biological and chemical materials purposefully introduced into buildings.

- Field test kits for detection of biological and chemical contaminants. Kits need to rapidly (10 min or less) collect and identify hazardous contaminants on indoor surfaces with very low rates of false positives/negatives. Kits should be sensitive to relevant health effects levels or other levels of concern, easy to use, relatively inexpensive (\$200 or less) and stable during prolonged storage. EPA is interested in field kits for anthrax, smallpox, plague, ricin, botulism toxin and chemical contact poisons (e.g., highly toxic commercial pesticides).
- Accurate and field-rugged ClO<sub>2</sub> monitors for use in monitoring decontamination operations. Also, accurate and field-rugged H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> monitors and field calibrators for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> monitors.
- Biological and chemical decontamination systems that can be applied safely, effectively and quickly at reasonable cost to fully remediate enclosed, semi-enclosed or outdoor facilities (commercial, private or governmental owned), structures, vehicles and other critical infrastructure and equipment. Such methods would need to address decontamination of common indoor and/or outdoor environmental surfaces. Important considerations, in addition to efficacy of decontamination, are materials compatibility, cost, safety, availability, ease of use, expendable supply needs and associated disposal requirements.
- Improved building design, maintenance and operational methods for preventing, minimizing or containing chemical or biological attack.

- Safe, efficient and cost-effective treatment and disposal methods for biological and/or chemical contaminated waste material.

## **D7. DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER SECURITY**

Research and development is needed in technologies, equipment, and other tools for drinking water and wastewater systems and their components which consist of drinking water collection, pretreatment, treatment, storage, and distribution systems, and wastewater collection, treatment, sludge disposal or treated wastewater release. This research may address either physical or cyber threats potentially resulting in disablement and disruption in services provided by various-sized systems. Technologies, equipment, and other tools are needed to detect, measure, monitor and warn of the presence of chemical and biological contaminants, contain and treat source and contaminated water, minimize cross connections between drinking water and wastewater systems, and decontaminate water distribution system equipment. These technologies could be used by drinking water and wastewater utility operators, emergency response personnel and other decision officials. Classes of contaminants of concern include: biological organisms (e.g., spores, viruses, bacteria); biotoxins and chemicals (including pesticides, toxic industrial chemicals, chemical warfare agents, persistent, bioaccumulative toxins both metal-based (e.g., mercury) and organic-based (e.g., PCBs)). Ideally, research in this area should also benefit the larger context of safe water even under non-threat situations.

- Technologies for detecting, measuring and monitoring water and wastewater for the presence of chemical and biological contaminants that could be introduced pre- or post- treatment. These technologies include hand-held or in-line devices that can provide a result in near-real-time and that can be used as part of an early warning system.
- Security systems and technologies including early warning “smart” systems which use detection devices and techniques in combination with computer-based software, to help drinking water and wastewater utility operators identify contaminants in water systems. Research is also needed on software or computer-driven planning tools to provide analysis and operational optimization when a portion of a water system becomes disabled or disrupted.
- Sampling techniques to aid in the confirmation of early warning system responses: when an early warning system is triggered and/or identifies a potentially contaminated volume of water within a water or wastewater system, there is the accompanying need to capture a sample of this volume for confirmatory analysis. Technologies that can accomplish this sampling automatically or semi-automatically are needed.
- Technologies, equipment, and techniques to treat water in the event of a disablement or disruption to a water system. Research is also needed for improved treatment technologies which include point of use/point of entry (POU/POE) treatment devices for individual homes, buildings, and structures and transportable or modular treatment systems which could be employed for the duration of time when water supplies are contaminated or treatment systems

are inoperable.

- Technologies, equipment, and techniques to decontaminate water or wastewater that has been contaminated with chemical and biological, and as appropriate biochemical contaminants, prior to its release for added treatment or to receiving waters.
- Technologies, equipment, and techniques to decontaminate water or wastewater systems and equipment and return them to use with minimal down time and so that they are in compliance with established level of cleanliness with respect to receiving waters.
- Technologies, equipment, and techniques for disposal of residues (e.g., floc, sludge) associated with the above decontamination activities. Research is also needed on technologies, equipment, and techniques to minimize the effects of deliberate disruption of drinking water systems including cross-connection to wastewater systems.

## **D8. COMPUTATIONAL TOXICOLOGY**

Sound computational toxicology methodologies are crucial to environmental research at many stages in order to integrate results in a meaningful way while at the same time reducing the need for extensive animal testing and, thus, reducing the cost of research. EPA has initiated a Computational Toxicology Research Program that is a technology-based, hypothesis-driven effort to increase the soundness of risk assessment decisions. It is designed to increase the capacity to prioritize, screen, and evaluate chemicals by enhancing the predictive and overall understanding of toxicities (<http://www.epa.gov/comptox>). Success will be measured by the ability to improve risk assessments by understanding the potential of chemicals to affect molecular and biochemical pathways of concern. Broadly, technology is needed in three strategic areas: 1) development of improved linkages across the source-to-outcome continuum, including the areas of chemical transformation and metabolism, better diagnostic/prognostic molecular markers, improved dose metrics, characterization of toxicity pathways, metabonomics, systems biology approaches, modeling frameworks, and uncertainty analysis; 2) development of improved predictive models for hazard identification, including the areas of Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships (QSARs) and other computational approaches, improved pollution prevention strategies, and high through-put screening approaches, and 3) enhancement of quantitative risk assessment in the areas of dose-response assessment, cross-species extrapolation, and chemical mixtures.

Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to, technologies and processes to:

- Monitor exposure to mixtures of stressors using molecular diagnostic indicators of possible adverse human health
- Predict the outcome of metabolism of xenobiotics at different levels of biological organization, and the pathogenicity of microorganisms

- Develop molecular docking models of key toxicity receptors such as the steroid hormone receptors or other transcriptional regulatory proteins
- Develop databases and QSAR models incorporating historical pharmacology and toxicology data sets for categorizing and prioritizing lists of chemicals nominated for toxicological evaluation/testing, particularly as related to developmental and reproductive toxicology
- Model chemical source/stressor formation, transport and transformation, environmental characterization, exposure, dose, early biological effects, altered structure/function, disease
- Model biologically relevant biotransformation processes in the environment and physiologically based pharmacokinetic processes within organisms
- Generate molecular signatures predictive of outcomes for toxicant classes, linking these profiles to biological and pathophysiological processes, and identify and facilitate the structural characterization of exposure-specific genes. Of particular interest is the application to non-hepatic tissues in mammalian organisms (e.g., the gonads and immune system), as well as any application relevant to species typically used in ecotoxicology.
- Integrate and interpret genomic, proteomic, and/or metabolomic data generated in the context of toxicological evaluations.

## **D9. LEAD PAINT DETECTION AND REMOVAL**

Lead is a significant environmental contaminant because it is toxic, persistent, and can be accumulated and stored in biological tissues. Lead may cause behavioral problems, learning disabilities, seizures or death. Children six years old and under are most at risk. Exposure to lead often occurs due to the presence of lead-based paint, lead contaminated dust (particularly from renovations) and lead contaminated soil. Apartments and homes with lead paint are frequently located in Environmental Justice communities and transitional neighborhoods where controlling expense is critical. EPA Regions have been enforcing Lead 1018 and 406(b) Notification requirements on owners and work with them to locate companies for lead abatement work. Renovation and remodeling are major public health concerns. Approximately 26 million renovations are conducted annually in pre-1978 homes which contain lead based paint. Large amounts of lead dust are produced by most of these renovation activities, and traditional cleaning methods often leave hazardous lead dust. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Currently, professional testing is the most accurate way to detect lead in dust. A new low cost, user friendly assessment tool that can be used by residents is needed. The tool needs to accurately detect lead in dust at levels consistent with TSCA's Title IV definitions of dust-lead hazards in 40 CFR 745.65(b) and clearance levels for lead in dust in 40 CFR 745.227(e)(8)(viii).

- Efficient and cost effective technologies are needed for stabilizing or removing lead-based paint while minimizing exposure to lead. Specific interests include: (1) developing efficient equipment for abatement (as well as renovation and remodeling) that generates little dust and debris; (2) developing methods, especially *in situ* methods for abating soil contaminated with lead at levels typical of older urban areas (400 - 1000 ppm); and (3) improving the efficiency of lead dust clean-up methods so that the number of clean-up steps can be reduced and passing clearance is a near certainty.

## **IX. SUBMISSION FORMS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

The attached forms, Appendix A - Proposal Cover Sheet, Appendix B - Project Summary, and Appendix C - SBIR Proposal Summary Budget, should be downloaded and printed from the Internet or photocopied, and completed as indicated under Section III, Proposal Preparation Instructions and Requirements. The purpose of these forms is to meet the mandate of law or regulation and simplify the submission of proposals.

**Appendix A**  
**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM**  
**SOLICITATION NO. PR-NC-05-10246**  
**SBIR PHASE I**

**PROPOSAL COVER SHEET**

PROPOSAL TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT REQUESTED:\$ \_\_\_\_\_ PROPOSED DURATION (PHASE I): 6 MOS  
(Not to Exceed \$70,000)

\*\*\*\*\*Proposals submitted in response to this solicitation will be valid for 300 days\*\*\*\*\*

RESEARCH TOPIC (check one)

- ☐ A1. Management of Poultry and Other Animal Feeding Operations
- ☐ A2. Drinking Water and Detection of lead Service Lines
- ☐ A3. Pollution Indicators for Beaches and Recreational Waters
- ☐ A4. In-Situ Cleanup of Contaminated Sediments
- ☐ B1. Management of Wastes from Hard-Rock and Coal Mining
- ☐ B2. Monitoring and Control of Air Pollution
- ☐ B3. Environmental Protection of Tribal Reservations and Alaska Native Villages
- ☐ B4. Reducing Low Level Area-Wide Soil Contamination
- ☐ B5. Alaska Oil and Gas Management Tools
- ☐ C1. Waste Minimization
- ☐ C2. Hazardous Waste Management
- ☐ C3. Contaminated Site Monitoring
- ☐ C4. Solid Waste Recycling
- ☐ C5. Waste Gasification
- ☐ D1. Innovation in Manufacturing
- ☐ D2. Nanomaterials
- ☐ D3. Pollution Prevention
- ☐ D4. Water and Wastewater Management
- ☐ D5. Green Buildings
- ☐ D6. Safe Buildings
- ☐ D7. Drinking Water and Wastewater Security
- ☐ D8. Computational Toxicology
- ☐ D9. Lead Paint Detection and Removal

CERTIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS: Answer Y(Yes) or N(No)

- ☐ 1. The above concern certifies that it is a small business concern and meets the definition as stated in the program solicitation.
- ☐ 2. The above concern certifies that a minimum of 2/3 of the research and/or analytical effort will be performed by the proposing firm.
- ☐ 3. If the proposal does not result in an award, is the Government permitted to disclose the title and technical abstract page of your proposed project, and the name, address, and telephone number of the official of the proposing firm to any inquiring parties?
- ☐ 4. The above concern certifies that it is a woman owned small business concern and meets the definition as stated in the program solicitation.\*
- ☐ 5. The above concern certifies that it is a socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern and meets the definition as stated in the program solicitation.\*
- ☐ 6. The above concern certifies it is a HUBZone small business concern and meets the definition as stated in the program solicitation.\*
- ☐ 7. Do you plan to send, or have you sent, this proposal or a similar one to any other federal agency? If yes, which? Use acronym(s) for each agency, (e.g., DOD, NIH, DOE, NASA, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 8. Choose one of the following to describe your Organization Type:  
☐ Individual ☐ Partnership ☐ Corporation ☐ LLC
- ☐ 9. Provide the following information: Tax Identification No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dun & Bradstreet Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Common Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\* For statistical purposes only.

**ENDORSEMENTS**

Principal Investigator:  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate/Business Official:  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPRIETARY NOTICE: These data shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used or disclosed in whole or in part for any purpose other than evaluation of this proposal. If a funding agreement is awarded to this offeror as a result of or in connection with the submission of these data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the funding agreement and pursuant to applicable law. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in the data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained on pages \_\_\_\_\_ of this proposal.

**Appendix B**  
**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM**  
**SOLICITATION NUMBER PR-NC-05-10246**  
**SBIR PHASE I**  
**PROJECT SUMMARY (Limit to One Page)**

FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE AND FAX NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Firm Name:

Telephone:

Address:

Fax:

Email:

TITLE OF PROPOSAL:

RESEARCH TOPIC LETTER AND DESCRIPTION:

NAME, TITLE AND E-MAIL ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/PROJECT MANAGER:

-----  
**TECHNICAL ABSTRACT, RESULTS, AND POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL APPLICATION**  
**(Limit to 400 Words; Must be Publishable):**

**Appendix C**  
**SBIR PROPOSAL SUMMARY BUDGET**

(See Instructions on Reverse Side)

-----  
Organization and Address

-----  
A. DIRECT LABOR (PI and other staff, list separately) Hours/Est. Rate: \$

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-----  
-----  
-----

-----  
B. OVERHEAD: \$

-----

-----  
C. OTHER DIRECT COSTS: (list separately) \$

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-----  
-----

-----  
D. TRAVEL: List purpose and individuals and or title \$

-----  
-----

-----  
E. CONSULTANTS: (List Est. Rate and Hours) \$

-----  
-----

-----  
F. GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE: \$

-----

-----  
**TOTAL COSTS (Total of A thru F above)**

----- \$

G. PROFIT ( \_\_\_\_%) Not to exceed 10% of total project costs \$

=====

**TOTAL PROJECT PRICE (Total costs + Profit)**

\$

PRINT NAME:

TITLE:

-----

SIGNATURE:

DATE SUBMITTED:

-----

This proposal is submitted in response to EPA SBIR Program Solicitation No. PR-NC-05-10246 and reflects our best estimate as of this date.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPENDIX C**

The purpose of this form is to provide a vehicle whereby the offeror submits to the Government a pricing proposal of estimated costs with detailed information for each cost element, consistent with the offeror's cost accounting system.

If the completed summary is not self-explanatory and/or does not fully document and justify the amounts requested in each category, such documentation should be contained, as appropriate, on a budget explanation page immediately following the budget in the proposal. The form Appendix C will count as one page in the 25 page limit, and any budget explanation pages included will count separately toward the 25 page limit. (See below for discussion on various categories.)

A. Direct Labor - List individually all personnel included, the estimated hours to be expended and the rates of pay (salary, wages, and fringe benefits).

B. Overhead - Specify current rate(s) and base(s). Use current rate(s) negotiated with the cognizant federal negotiating agency, if available. If no rate(s) has (have) been negotiated, a reasonable rate(s) may be requested for Phase I which will be subject to approval by EPA. Offerors may use whatever number and types of overhead rates that are in accordance with their accounting systems and approved by the cognizant federal negotiating agency, if available.

C. Other Direct Costs - List all other direct costs which are not otherwise included in the categories described above, i.e., computer services, publication costs, subcontracts, etc. List each item of permanent equipment to be purchased, its price, and explain its relation to the project.

D. Travel - Address the type and extent of travel and its relation to the project.

E. Consultants - Indicate name, daily compensation, and estimated days of service.

F. General and Administrative (G&A) - Same as B. Above.

G. Profit - Reasonable fee (estimated profit) will be considered under this solicitation. For guidance purposes, the amount of profit normally should not exceed 10% of total project costs.

## **Appendix D**

### **SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION SOURCES**

State-of-the-art information, including service and cost details, useful in preparing SBIR proposals or in guiding research efforts may be obtained from the following sources:

National Technical Information Service (NTIS)  
5288 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, VA 22161  
(513) 569-7562

EPA Headquarters Library (3404)  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202) 260-5922

The Hazardous Waste Collection and Database are available for use in the EPA Headquarters Library, the 10 EPA Regional libraries, EPA laboratories in ADA, OK; Edison, NJ; Las Vegas, NV; Research Triangle Park, NC and the National Enforcement Investigations Center in Denver, CO. The Database runs on an IBM AT/XT or compatible equipment and may be purchased from NTIS using the NTIS order number PB87-945000.

The Environmental Quality Instructional Resources Center  
1200 Chambers Road, R.310  
Columbus, OH 43212  
(614) 292-6717  
[Especially related to Drinking Water and Waste Water Treatment]  
National Small Flows Clearinghouse (SWICH)  
P.O. Box 7219  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
1-800-677-9424  
[Topic themes include source reduction, recycling, composting, waste combustion, collection, transfer, disposal, landfill gas, and special wastes]

ACCESS EPA (#055-000-00509-5) 1995 Edition

A consolidated guide to EPA information resources, services, and products. It provides access to:

Public information tools  
Major EPA dockets  
Clearing houses and hot lines  
Records management programs  
Major EPA environmental database  
Library and information services  
State environmental libraries

"ACCESS EPA" may be ordered at a cost of \$16.00 each from the U.S. Government Printing Office, New Orders, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, or telephone (202)512-1800, or from NTIS using order number PB-147438.

Vendor Information System for Innovative Treatment Technologies (VISITT) Profiles 325 innovative technologies available from 204 vendors to treat ground water in situ, soil, sludges, and sediments. Includes technologies in all stages of development-bench, pilot, or full. VISITT is available at no charge on diskettes compatible with personal computers using DOS operating systems. To order VISITT diskettes and user manual, and to become a registered user, call the VISITT Hotline at 1-800-245-4505.

ENVIROSENSE

Internet: <http://www.epa.gov/envirosense>

ES includes numerous databases and addresses industry and small business needs by establishing specific compliance assistance, P2, regulatory and specific industry sector (SIC) data sets.

## **Appendix E: COMMERCIALIZATION FACT SHEET**

(Finding Commercial Products; Conducting a Patent Search; Searching for Federal Research; Standards/Certifying Bodies)

### ***FINDING COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS***

The technology you are proposing may already be being sold in the market. There are five web searches recommended as the minimum for determining if the technology is commercially available. In each case, when having trouble look for the FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) or other advice on searching.

#### *Web Search using General Search Engines*

There are around 320 million indexed web pages and the web continues to grow exponentially. One problem with this rate of growth is that no single web search engine is capable of indexing the whole of cyberspace. We recommend using at least one meta-engine and two search engines.

A meta-engine is a search engine which searches other engines that actually catalog or index sites. Examples are Metacrawler, <http://www.metacrawler.com/>, and Dogpile, <http://www.dogpile.com>. We use that search to identify which search engines seem to be producing the best results and then use those engines for more complicated queries which cannot be supported by metacrawler and other meta-engines.

Two engines for more detailed searches at present are Hotbot's More Options page (<http://www.hotbot.com/default.asp?MT=&SM=MC&DV=7&RG=.com&act.super=+More+Options+&DC=10&DE=2&v=2&OPs=MDRTP>) and Alta Vista's Advanced Query Page (<http://www.altavista.digital.com/cgi-bin/query?pg=aq>). Both engines allow you to search new groups (Usenet) as well as the Web. Hotbot has the largest number of pages indexed by any web browser as this is written. Alta Vista has the next most extensive coverage. Unfortunately, queries are constrained to the options presented. Alta Vista supports any Boolean query you can design. Both sites have a search by subject feature that provides another path to sites of interest. Because Digital Equipment Corporation, who maintains Alta Vista, is a high tech company, this engine has traditionally been strong on indexing science and technology sites.

When searching, expand or narrow your keywords over time. For example, when searching for "sapphire liquid crystal displays," you may want to broaden to liquid crystal displays or just displays. Also remember to use abbreviations such as LCD.

*Thomas Register of American Manufacturers:* Long a staple of corporate buyers and market researchers, you can access Thomas Register on-line for free at <http://www.thomasregister.com/>. Once you obtain your free membership, you can search the 155,000 companies by product. You may have to try a few different keywords to get hits.

*Hoovers :* Hoovers on-line at <http://www.hoovers.com> provides access to profiles on over 12,000 companies. These are the major firms in America, including subsidiaries of foreign operations. By using the keyword search, you can look for companies making products in areas related to your technology. Hoovers provides hypertext links to go to the company's web page. Phone, fax, and street address are also provided. If you cannot find the information on the web, ask for relevant product literature from their marketing departments.

*Press Releases:* PR Newswire (<http://www.prnewswire.com/>) redistributes corporate press releases. It provides coverage of newly released products that might not otherwise be found on the web.

*Patents:* We discuss patent searches in the next section of this FactSheet. Look for patents related to your technology, then examine the assignee field. Companies licensing or patenting technology in areas related to your technology are competitors that may be introducing products similar to the one you are considering proposing. Search for their web pages using one of the resources above.

## ***CONDUCTING A PATENT SEARCH***

*What is a patent?* A patent is a right to an invention that is granted by the U.S. Government or a foreign government. It gives the holder an exclusive right to use an invention during a period of time. In the United States, before a patent can be issued, the inventor must demonstrate his or her invention is new and non-obvious. To be new, an invention must not have been known nor made by others in the U.S. The invention also can not have been previously patented or presented in a publication prior to the claimed date on which the invention was made. Patents are handled by the U.S. Patent Office.

Non-obvious is established with reference to what would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the relevant technology (or technologies) at the time of the invention. A general rule is that the more complicated the technology and the greater the rate at which it is developing, the higher the skill-level of that hypothetical ordinary person. Non-obvious is determined by examining prior patents, technical publications, and non-secret work being conducted. Usually some aspect of an invention will be non-obvious and thus capable of being patented.

It is important to recognize that different rules apply in different countries. In the U.S., you have one year from the time of first disclosure, use, publication, or sale of an invention to patent the invention. Where more than one person or group makes a claim to be the inventor, the patent goes to the person or group that can demonstrate priority in time. Overseas, the rules are different. Usually the invention must be patented before any public disclosure, use, publication, or sale. In case of a dispute, priority goes to the first person or group to apply for a patent, regardless of who may actually be the inventor. You can, however, get the same overseas priority rights you would get from simultaneously filing overseas and in the U.S. if you file in each relevant country within 12 months of a U.S. patent application.

*How to search for U.S. patents:* To search the Patent Office go to <http://patents.uspto.gov/index.html>.

The Boolean search capability of the Patent Office enables constructing complicated searches to narrow in on patents of interest. It allows two terms Booleans in the first search, with more complicated queries when refining a search. You can search specific sets of years or the entire database. The advanced search gives you the ability to look in any or all of the fields in the patent -- a very nice feature. Coverage includes all patents issued no later than one week earlier. It includes all utility, design, and plant patents since 1976. Claims and pictures are not included. (See below, Reading Patents.)

The IBM Patent server contains over 2 million patents. Where drawings are part of the patent, they have been scanned in and can be viewed. Off the home page, you have the option of searching from 1995 to present or 1971 to present. Hypertext links on the home page let you search by patent number, use Boolean Logic, or do a text search in various sections of the patent. Try to be as targeted as possible in your search terms. For example, "environmental monitor" will return 42 patents issued in 1995 or later on IBM's server. "Mercury monitor," by comparison, returns only three.

*Reading Patents:* Once you have found a patent that looks relevant for your interests, examine the abstract and the claims. The abstract provides an overview of what is covered. The claims give you the specific scope of the patent.

There are three paths for finding other patents of interest, once you have found the first one. The first method is to look at the class (or classes) of the patent. You can find patents addressing similar problems by looking in those classes. To fine tune the classes to use, look at a number of relevant patents. Examine the classes that are listed on the patent. Select those classes that most frequently appear across your sample of patents for further examination.

The second method is to look at the patents cited as references. The final method is to look at patents that reference the one you are examining. By searching text, relevant classes, and patents referred to or referencing relevant patents you can quickly determine if a U.S. patent has issued on a technology of interest. CAUTION: Examining U.S. patents does not assure you the technology has not been patented elsewhere. Further, if the patent is only applied for and has not yet been issued, you will not find it.

### ***SEARCHING FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH***

There are two sets of publicly available data on Federal Research. FEDRIP, or Federal Research in Progress, provides access to current civilian agency research. FEDRIP includes:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Energy
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Highway Administration
- National Institutes of Health
- NASA
- National Science Foundation
- US Geological Survey
- National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Small Business Innovation Research

Parts of FEDRIP may be searched for free at The Community of Science, <http://fundedresearch.cos.com/>. Separate databases exist for the National Institutes of Health, NSF, USDA, and the SBIR program -- which means you must do multiple searches. You can also search projects of the Medical Research Council of the United Kingdom. To search all of FEDRIP, go to <http://grc.ntis.gov/fedrip.htm>. There is a \$350 fee.

In addition, by going to an agency's web site, you can find information on their current and/or past awards. The National Technical Information Service (NTIS) is the designated repository of research reports. It contains technical reports and other government-produced information products. The free access parts may be searched at <http://www.ntis.gov/>.

Perhaps the best comprehensive resource for searching is the RAND's RaDiUS at <http://www.rand.org/radius/>. RaDiUS, stands for "Research and Development in the United States." It is the first comprehensive database that tracks in real-time the research and development activities and resources of the U.S. Government. Among its sources are the following: the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA); USDA's Current Research Information System (CRIS); HHS's Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects (CRISP) and Information for Management, Planning, Analysis, and Coordination (IMPAC) system; DoD's R-1 and R-2 Budget Exhibits and Work Unit Information Summaries (WUIS); DOE's laboratory information system; the Federal Assistance Awards Data System

(FAADS); the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS); OMB's MAX system; DVA's R&D Information System (RDIS); NSF's Science and Technology System (STIS); and NASA's 507 System.

You must be a Government Contractor to subscribe to RaDiUS. The small business fee is \$1,000 per year per password.

### ***STANDARDS AND CERTIFYING BODIES***

If you are going to introduce a commercial product, it most likely will have to meet certain standards and be certified as meeting those standards. For example, we all are familiar with the Underwriter Laboratories seal found on household electrical products -- a certification of safety under normal use. A wide range of bodies creates standards or certifies products. To find relevant standards, we recommend beginning at the American National Standards Institute's "Internet Resources for Standards Developers", located at: [http://www.ansi.org/standards\\_activities/overview/overview.aspx?menuid=3](http://www.ansi.org/standards_activities/overview/overview.aspx?menuid=3) The site provides links to U.S. bodies developing standards.

In the U.S., private sector laboratories, like UL commonly do certification. These organizations rely on standards developed by consensus bodies such as the American Society for Testing and Materials (<http://www.astm.org/>) or federal agencies such as EPA. ASTM maintains an International Directory of Testing Laboratories at: <http://astm.365media.com/astm/labs/>. The Directory can be searched by geographic location, lab name, subject area, or keywords.

**IMPORTANT!!**

**IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT CARD TO CONFIRM RECEIPT OF YOUR PROPOSAL, PLEASE COMPLETE A STANDARD SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED POSTCARD CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AND ATTACH TO THE ORIGINAL OF EACH PROPOSAL:**

Please type the following and fill in the blanks as appropriate:

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**This will acknowledge the receipt of your proposal titled:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Topic Letter \_\_\_\_\_. The evaluation of proposals and the award of SBIR Contracts will require approximately 10 months, and no information on proposal status will be available until final selection(s) is made. Your proposal has been assigned EPA No. \_\_\_\_\_ (to be filled in by EPA).**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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REVERSE SIDE: Please type the following in the upper left-hand corner (return address) and self-address the card to your corporate official: (Post cards that do not meet postal service standards will not be returned).

\_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. EPA  
RTP/POD (D143-01)  
RTP, NC 27711

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

Your Firm Name  
Address  
City, State Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_